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RELATING TO THE

AMERICAN COLONIAL CHURCH.

EDITED BY

WILLIAM STEVENS PERRY, D.D.

Volume IV. --- MARYLAND.

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INTRODUCTION.

THE pressure of other duties, incident upon a change of life and residence, has hindered the appearance of this volume; while the partial destruction by fire of both the MSS. and the printed sheets, together with the copies of previous volumes still on hand, have proved a serious loss to the editor, as well as a reason for further delay. As has been said again and again with reference to these volumes of historical papers, the aim of the editor has been simply to reproduce the *copies* of the original MSS. as he has them in his hands. In few instances the original MSS. or duplicates are in his possession. But for the bulk of the documents here reproduced in print only transcripts taken under the direction of the late Rev. Dr. Hawks exist. The original MSS. have been destroyed, and without the opportunity of correction by the originals themselves it would be unwise to hazard the correction of even evident errors of the copyists, lest in so doing a tampering with historical documents should be the result.

Less need exists for annotations to these papers, in view of the important services in the elucidation of the history of the Church in Maryland rendered by the Rev. Dr. Ethan Allen, whose life-long labors have secured for this Diocese abundant material, both in MSS. and in print, for the student of its history—material which will year by year be more highly valued, and all of which should be placed beyond the possibility of destruction.

It is through the labors of such devoted and capable students of the local history of our Dioceses that the work of the future historian of the Church in America will be rendered comparatively easy. It is therefore in grateful recognition of the services to the Church at large, as well as the Church in Maryland, rendered by the Rev. Dr. Ethan Allen, that this volume of Maryland Papers is inscribed by his friend and brother,

THE EDITOR.

BISHOP'S HOUSE, DAVENPORT, IOWA,

St. Mark's Day, 1878.

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* This list must have been made near the end of the year 1722 or the beginning of 1723.—E. A.

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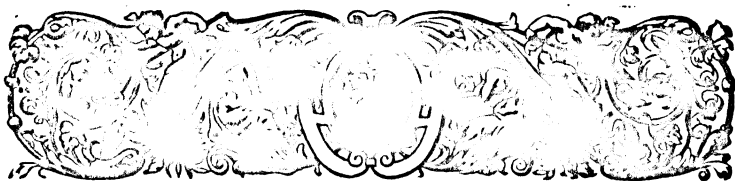
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PAPERS RELATING
TO THE
HISTORY OF THE CHURCH
IN MARYLAND.

*Letter to the Right Reverend Father in God, THOMAS,
Lord Bishop of Lincoln.*

MARYLAND, Octob. 18th, 1694.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR LORDSHIP,

Under so glorious a Raign, wherein, by God's Providence, His true Religion has been so miraculously preserved, should we not endeavour to promote it we should hardly deserve the Names of good Protestants or good Subjects, especially considering how noble an Example is sett before us by their Ma^{ty} Royal foundation now vigorously carryed on in Virginia. We have therefore in Assembly attempted to make Learning an handmaid to Devotion, and founded free schools in Maryland to attend on their Colledge in that Colony. We only begg their Ma^{ty} confirmation of an Act we have proposed for their Establishment, and of your Lord'p a share of that assistance and care you

have taken in promoting so great and so good a design as that of the Colledge; so charitable a founder of a School in oposition to that Shop of poisoning principles set open in the Savoy, We are confident will favour our like pious designes in this Province—wherein instructing our youth in the orthodox, preserving them from the infection of Heterodox Tenets, and fitting them for the service of Church & State, in this uncultivated part of the world, are our chiefest ayme and end. For an Acc^t of the particulars of our Intent we refer your Lord^p to their Ma^y's Secretary of this Colony, and we begg leave to subscribe ourselves, Your Lord^p's

Most dutifull Sons and obedient humble Serv^{ts},

THOMAS LAURENCE, Secretary,

[ffr. NICHOLSON.]

in behalf of the Council.

ROB^t SMITH, Speaker,

on behalfe of the House of Burgesses.

To the Archbishop of Canterbury.

FROM THE PORT OF ANNAPOLIS IN MARYLAND,
May the 22^d, 1695.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR GRACE,

We, your most humble Suppliants, his Ma^y's Councill and the Delegates of the severall Countys in this His Ma^y's Province now Sitting in a Generall Assembly, and unanimously concurring with his Ex^y Francis Nicholson, Esq^r, Governor in chief, in his pious & zealous endeavours for establishing Religion & the publique worship of God among us, according to the Doctrine and discipline of the Church of England, have in pursuance to an Act passed in a former Assembly, entituled an Act for the Service of Almighty God and the establishment of the Protestant Religion in this Province, and according to his Ex^y's proposals to us, agreed to an Act this present Assembly, entituled An Additional Act to the Act of Religion.

We therefore most humbly entreat your Grace to peruse the said Acts and others, and (if your Grace shall approve of them) that you would be

pleased to get his Ma^y's Royal Assent to them, in order to their passing the Great Seale, that they may be made perpetuall, his Ex^{ty} (according to his wonted generosity) having been pleased to proffer to pay the fees for so doing.

But if your Grace shall find them any way deficient, We humbly desire your Grace would be pleased to signify to us what in your great wisdom you shall thinke fitt to have inserted or altered in them, to which we shall most readily agree, not doubting his Ex^{ty}'s assent to the same.

And when we shall returne them to your Grace, with such Alterations, we hope your Grace will be pleased to get them pass the Great Seale.

We did, in the last Assembly, by the truly worthy S^r Thomas Laurence, their Ma^y's Secretary of this Province, desire your Grace's assistance in behalfe of a Free School which we designed to found, and now we presume to intreat your Grace to take upon you the patronage of the same.

This is to be presented to your Grace by the said S^r Thomas Laurence and M^r. William Frisby, a very worthy Member of our House of Burgesses.

We shall not be further troublesome to your Grace than humbly to begg your Grace's blessing, and to pray to God that your Grace may long preside in the Chaire to His honor and glory and good of the Church of England.

We are Your Grace's

Most dutiful Sons & most humble Serv^{ts},

HENRY JOWLES, Custos Sigill.,
on behalfe of y^r Ma^y's Hon'ble Councill.

[*Postscript.*]

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR GRACE,

By virtue of the particular and immediate obligation we lye under to my Lord Bishop of London as our Diocesan, We thought we were in duty bound to acquaint his Lord^p with the substance of what we have troubled your Grace with in this Letter.

ROBERT SMITH, Speaker,
on behalfe of the House of Burgesses.

The Case of the People called Quakers.

Presented to THOMAS NICHOLSON, Governor of the Province of Maryland, and his Council, and to the Assembly of the Delegates now Sitting.

A Petition and Address of the people called Quakers in Maryland to the Governor and his Council, and to the Assembly of the Delegates. Also an humble Expostulation.

It hath been sufficiently known that we have been a suffering people, both in our persons and estates, ever since the Lord was pleased to raise us up to be a people, and particularly in discharge of their consciences to God, in refusing of all Oaths whatsoever, which command of Christ we dare not disobey, for which cause we are many ways laid open to our enemys as a spoil, both in our persons and estates, nor is our suffering like to terminate in our persons, but extends to the ruin of our Wives and innocent Children.

For, 1st. If any of us be called to answer to any Bill framed against us in Chancery, allthough in obedience to the Summons we do appear, and are ready to give our testimony according to the truth of the Case and best of our knowledge, yet because we cannot take the formal Oath, an Attachment is granted forth against such of us concerned; and because we cannot yet answer according to form, a Writ of Rebellion comes forth against such, whereby both persons, estate, wife, and children may be brought to ruin.

2^{ndly}. When any of us do die intestate, as sometimes it happens, our wives, who, for conscience sake, can not swear, are therefore put by the Administration of their deceased Husband's estate, and a stranger perhaps suffered to administer, to the great injury of the Widow and Orphans.

3^{rdly}. If any of us (as oft it happens) be nominated executors in trust or by right of law and equity ought to have administered as being greatest Creditor, yet forasmuch as we cannot swear, we are therefore put by and made incapable either to serve our deceased friend, or to get our just debt, which have been of very evil consequences to many.

4^{thly}. We are made answerable to our neighbours in divers respects, for if we are called to bear witness to the truth of controversys, which often happens

amongst Neighbours, and because we can not take an Oath, our neighbours' just Case suffers.

5^{thly}. If any of us are inclined to use the way of merchandize, either for ourselves or as factors for others, yet divers of us, seeing the great inconveniences that may fall because we cannot swear, have therefore in great part forborn that way of trading, which might not only have been beneficial to themselves, but advantageous to the province, for if a person die in either of our debts, his executors or administrators perhaps put us to prove the debt, which, if it is ~~pro~~ acc^t, we cannot do, and if it be ~~pro~~ Bill or Bond, perhaps we are put to swear that we never received any part or parcel, which we can not do, although we know in our consciences we have not, and although the honest judge may be persuaded that we are wronged, yet knows not how to right us.

6^{thly}. We are in many cases answerable to the King and the Government, for although we are a considerable Member of this province, and in many respects might be serviceable both to the King and Inhabitants, according as our capacities might be thought fit, yet because we cannot swear, we are therefore made almost as a useless member, and not capable to be helpful and an use to our neighbours, nor pay our services due to the King. And if any of us should happen to hear any seditious words, or know of any private intention to Rebellion against the King or Government, or for any felonious Act committed, yet may we not, without great danger to ourselves, discover these things, because we cannot give such formal testimony as the law requires; the partys perhaps may by law be cleared of the fact only for want of such formal testimonys, and then bring their Action against us as Slanderers.

These things we do in humble manner lay before you, desiring that our suffering Case may be taken into your most serious consideration, and that a law may be made in this province, whereby we may be eased of the mischiefs which we suffer upon the Account of Oaths, and that our solemn attestation or denial may be taken instead of an Oath, and that in case any pretending tenderness of conscience in the case of Oaths, shall be found to falsify their solemn attestation, that then they suffer the pains and penalties of perjury. The next thing we have at this time to lay before you, is the suffering we are under by reason of a late Act which enjoyns to pay a certain tax towards the building of Churches (so called) and maintaining of those called Ministers, which for pure confidence to God we can not do, but must for ever bear our testimony against all such as preach for hire, knowing that the Ministers of

Christ never preached any such thing ; by reason of which we suffer and our goods are seized and taken from us, that otherwise would be for the support of our families ; this in humility we find ourselves concerned to lay before you, and desire that we may be eased in the matter, and the oppression removed, which otherwise may prove to be the ruin of some poor families amongst us, who cannot for conscience sake pay the s^d tax, although they were to suffer the spoiling of all the goods they have, and imprisonment of their persons until death.

AN HUMBLE EXPOSTULATION.

The Case on our part is hard, that in the Province of Pensilvania and several other American plantations our friends do enjoy the liberty, rights, and privileges of free born English subjects without swearing ; and that we their so near neighbours must be in a kind of Slavery by being debarred from those rights and privileges, which our very birthright may lawfully claim. For we are the King's good subjects, Englishmen free born, and never yet forfeited our birthrights by any plots, conspiracies or rebellion against Government or Governors, we are of peaceable behaviour amongst our neighbours, and seek the good of all men, and for conscience sake we pay taxes and tribute to the King and those that rule over us. And it cannot be denied but that the province of Maryland has given as large promises of liberty to tender consciences as Pensylvania or any American Plantation ever did, and it is sufficiently known that many have transported themselves and familys, expecting to enjoy the liberty of their consciences without being debarred of their English rights and privileges, and chiefly by means and industry of those Dissenters from the Church of England hath this provision been brought to yield the income to the Crown of England which at this day it doth, and that at last these very persons or their succeeding Children should not be held worthy to enjoy privilege equal with their fellow subjects, let reason and equity judge whether it be not a grievance fit to be complained of.

It having been often affirmed by some called wise men that no Government could possibly subsist without swearing, and when the Province of Pensylvania began at first to be settled under the Government of William Pen, great was the expectation of many how it could be possible that that Government could be upheld without Oaths, and the eyes of thousands were

upon those poor Quakers, to see what would be the issue of their solemn testimony instead of an Oath. But now time, which manifests things, lets all see that in Pensylvania, with their dispensation of Oaths, that province hath not come short of most of these American Plantations, either in a judicial way of Government, or in industry for the propagation of the plan, and increase of trade and commerce, which is worthy to be noted.

But above all, it seems hard on us that since we are the King's good subjects, and may, by our English birthright, expect the privileges of Englishmen in all respects, and since we are under the Government and protection of the same Prince with other neighbours of Pensylvania and other American Plantations, that yet we must not enjoy the same English rights and liberties which they do, let it be judged in the collapse of equity whether we have not cause to complain.


And because we will not be over large in our humble expostulation, we will conclude and shall readily submit in all things to you, whose conscience to God doth not demand the contrary, and that warranted by the Scriptures of truth, and whatever laws you make or continue to which we cannot for conscience sake yield active obedience, our pure righteous principles bind us to yield all passive subjection thereunto. And if we suffer, we shall be innocent in the sight of God, and have a testimony of our integrity in the hearts of honest men.

Thus we have been concerned and constrained, not only to manifest some part of our sufferings unto you by way of address, but also by an humble expostulation given you in short our sense of the hard measure we have meted unto us, and in submissive manner lay before you, desiring your everlasting well being, and that that Christian Rule of doing unto all Men as you would be done unto, may be your measure in all things.

BY HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR & COUNCIL IN ASSEMBLY.

MAY the 17th, 169^t.

This petition is referred to the House of Burgesses.


Signed  Order,

HEN. DENTON, Clerk Council.

By THE HOUSE OF BURGESSES.

MAY 19th, 169^d.

As to the first part of this Petition, viz., the dispensing with the taking of Oaths, it is the Opinion of this House that it is expressly contrary to the known laws of the Kingdom of England, and therefore not fit to be dispensed with. And as to the other part of the Petition relating to the 40th. of Tobacco & Poll, this House will not make any distinction, but continue your Petitioners under the same circumstances with all other their Majesties' good subjects of this province as to the payment thereof.

Signed  Order,

W. BLADEN, Clerk Assembly.

The Maryland Clergy to the Lord Bishop of London.

MARYLAND, PORT ANNAPOLIS,

May 18th, 1696.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR LORDSHIP,

We, your Lordship's most dutiful inferior Clergy of the Church of England living in His Majesty's Province of Maryland, being removed at so great a distance from your Lordship's personal inspection and care over us, that we are debarred the privilege of making our frequent applications to your Lordship for advice and instructions in the managing ourselves in our Cures where Providence hath placed us, do humbly presume to trouble your Lordship with an account of our present state, in relation to the following particulars, which we do, with all deference to your Lordship's great judgment, here lay before you.

When His Excellency, Governor Nicholson, came into the Country in the year 1694, there were but 3 Clergymen in Episcopal Orders, besides 5 or 6 popish priests, who had perverted divers idle people from the Protestant Religion. There was also a sort of wandering pretenders to preaching that came from New England and other places; which deluded not only the Protestant Dissenters from our Church but many of the Churchmen themselves,

by their extemporary prayers and preachments, for which they were admitted by the people and got money of them.

The 3 Episcopal Clergymen, having made a hard shift to live here some time after they came hither, did afterwards marry and maintain their families out of the plantations they had with their cures.

And tho' the better and most responsible persons of the neighbouring Plantations that owned themselves to be of the Communion of the Church of England subscribed their names to some small Contributions for their officiating amongst them, that those Clergymen could not get the half and sometimes not the fourth part of their subscriptions, notwithstanding they endeavoured to acquit themselves to the best of their powers, in a constant and conscientious discharge of their ministerial function.

His Excellency, upon his arrival with several of us that waited on him to his Government in Maryland, continued those 3 Clergymen in their places where he found them. And he having (as we are bound in confidence to God, and must in honour to his Excellency's name confess), with all possible care and expedition erected Churches in most parishes proportionable to the quantity of those sums of Tobacco that were in arrears in the Sheriffs' or Vestrymen's hands ever since the Act for 40^{lbs} Tobacco ꝑ poll made in Governor Copley's days, placed us in the best vacancies (as he hath since done by others coming with your Lordship's permit) that were most convenient for the more general serving of the Country. And that your Lordship may have a just apprehension of the said annual Incomes by virtue of the Act for 40 ꝑ poll, we have made bold to trouble your Lordship with the enclosed Paper concerning them.

Tobacco being the one and only staple commodity of the Country, is that out of which our small incomes are paid, the manner of which is thus: Every planter, for himself and his male children and White Servant-Man, as also for his Negro Slaves (both male and female), after their age of 16 years, is assessed 40^{lb} Tobacco ꝑ poll, demandable in the Winter Quarter upon execution by the Sheriff; 5^{lb} in the hundred being deducted for his trouble in collecting it, and 1,000^{lb}, by a late Act of Assembly, being also deducted towards the maintenance of a Parish and Vestry Clerk, which was not provided for in the Act made for the support of a regular Clergy, in Governor Copley's time; but some of us are forced to give 2,000^{lb} to the Clerks by reason of their going so far to do their Dutys on the Lord's Day.

The tobacco which is raised by the Public levy of the 40th th poll for secular offices and other charges of the Country, is generally freighted by the English Merchants, being not reckoned (when received) to be worth above one fourth part of that (quantity for quantity) which the Planters cure (as they term it) or manage for their own freight and Sale; the reason for which the Public Tobacco is generally freighted is that the Planters cull the best of their Crop for their own freighting, or selling it for Goods or Bills of Exchange; and kept the refuse and discoloured Tobacco to pay the Sheriffs for their taxes and Duty.

The Merchants are not for meddling with this Tobacco, not only because it is much worse than the other, but because it is generally very troublesome for them to get it paid in any reasonable time, and that often they cannot get it at all, wholly losing their time and labour in going from place to place to demand it of those Planters to whom the Sheriffs send them.

That it is a great and inevitable damage, and forebodes a total disappointment of such as have their dependence on the public pay of the Country.

The extent of our Parish is generally very large, some of them being about 20 from 30 miles in length; by reason of the Inhabitants of this Country having (many of them) vast tracts of land, live at least a mile asunder from their next neighbours. This large extent of Parishes obligeth us to keep one, or sometimes two horses to ride on. The charges of our Board and keeping our horses take up one fourth of our greatest Incomes, and the remaining 3 parts (considering the rate we pay for English Goods in the stores, and that the Merchants will allow us in goods at prime cost, very rarely a penny and sometimes but an halfpenny or a farthing a Pound for our Tobacco in bartering with them) will hardly find us with Clothes and other necessaries. If we have any overplus when our necessaries and conveniences are served, it's hazardous for us to freight it, lest it should prove a drug in the English or Holland Markets, and by paying from 10 sometimes to £16 Sterling per Ton for freight, besides the King's Custom, &c., it should bring us in debt.

So that should some of us that have wives in England send for them, and go to house keeping, we could not tell how to maintain them here, not yet being provided any Minister's House and Glebe, except at St. Mary's, where one M^r. Nobbs lately arrived, and having a wife, is by his Excellency placed.

But notwithstanding that small provision which is made for your Lordship's

Clergy, and the precariousness and great uncertainty of the tenure of what we have, the Papists and Quakers (of both which there are some of the richest men in the province) are much dissatisfied.

And we have lately received very certain advice from London that those of our Quakers that went for England in the last Maryland and Virginia fleet have petitioned the Lords of the Committee of Trade and Foreign Plantations to have the 40^b per Poll taken off as a burden upon their estates and (as we suppose they might pretend) upon their consciences too.

Should they obtain their petitions only for themselves, the incomes of some of the best Parishes, in respect of the Tobacco raised by the 40^b ꝥ poll, would be so impaired that there would not be left a tolerable subsistence for a single Clergyman and his horse, and one horse, at least, we must all of us, of necessity, keep ready by us, not only to ride to Church on Sundays, but to ride all over our Parishes to Christenings, Weddings, visiting the sick, and burials on the week days, when or wherever we are sent for.

Could the Quakers clear themselves of the 40^b ꝥ poll, the Papists might all pretend to do so too, because they have Priests of their own to provide for; and could both these parties effect their designs, the Clergy and Church of England would be left in a very naked and poor condition here, besides that we might expect many that have their religion still to choose, would turn either Papists or Quakers, and refuse to pay too, for many of them look upon the Sacraments as needless impositions, and go neither to the Papists' Mass nor the Quakers' meetings, and seldom or ever to Church.

Now we become most humble petitioners to your Lordship, that if there should be occasion (as we have reason to fear there is) your Lordship would be pleased to espouse our Cause, and intercede with His Most Gracious Majesty that we may not be wholly discouraged from staying in these parts of the English Empire, and preaching the Gospel here, as well as the Papists and Presbyterians and Quakers do after their manner, and our just hopes, and that we shall not be thought much worse by great good and wise persons, for the Quakers' insinuations against us behind our backs, which we doubt not have been as maliciously as cunningly contrived.

We hope your Lordship will be likewise pleased upon occasion to make such further intercession for us with His Majesty as that we may not be prejudged before we have each to answer for ourselves, both against Papists and Quakers, either by writing or by proxies, when we shall know the particulars

of their pretended advances, and what may be falsely said against us by those two inveterate enemies to the Church of England.

May it please your Lordship, as far removed as the Quakers and Papists seem to be in their different sentiments about religion, they are jointly bent against our Church, and daily endeavour to draw people to their parties, by suggesting to them that Lord Baltimore will govern here again; than which nothing can be more pleasing news to libertines and loose persons, who can seldom or never be gotten to come to Church at all. And should my Lord rule as formerly, the insolence of the Romish Priests (who are somewhat curbed by his Excellency's great care and vigilance) would soon be intolerable in these parts, that are so remote from England.

Besides there being great numbers of Irish Papists brought continually into this province, and many Irish Priests being suspected to be coming incog. amongst us (as having no better place of refuge in the King's Dominions) upon their being banished from Ireland, there is great reason to fear there will be as much discouragement and danger coming upon all his Majesty's good Protestant subjects here as upon the English Clergy.

This expectation of the Lord Baltimore's being restored to the Government of Maryland animates the Priests and Jesuits to begin already to inveigle several ignorant people to turn to their religion. To which end they do (contrary to the Act of Parliament to deter them from perverting any of His Majesty's Protestant subjects to popery) introduce themselves into the Company of the sick, when they have no Ministers, that his Excellency hath been lately forced to issue out his proclamation against their so doing, to restrain them.

And now, may it please your Lordship, we, your Lordship's most dutiful Clergy, do humbly represent unto your Lordship the great and urgent necessity of an Ecclesiastical rule here, invested with such ample power and authority from your Lordship as may capacitate him to redress what is amiss, and to supply what is wanting in the Church.

We further humbly represent unto your Lordship that we conceive this to be the very crisis of time wherein (with the help of Divine Providence) to lay a firm foundation in this Country (which is yet in its infancy as to Church matters) for the establishment of the Church of England, before we be overrun with enthusiasm, idolatry, and atheism, which are already too rife and prevailing amongst us.

We most humbly beg your Lordship's pardon for our great presumption in troubling your Lordship with this long letter, and we hope ere long we shall be happy with the presence of The Reverend Dr. Bray, your Lordship's designed Commissary. In the mean time, we beg leave to make this thankful acknowledgment of your Lordship's care in providing such a worthy and deserving person to preside in the Church in Maryland.

And that Almighty God would please to bless your Lordship with long and happy days amongst the Clergy at home, and that you may endeavour to reap the comfort of the great and pious designs, in propagating and establishing the Church of England in the English Empire in America, is the hearty and humble prayer of

My Lord,

Your Lordship's most dutiful Sons,

And most obliged

Humble Servants,

PEREGINE CORRY,

JOHN LILLINGSTON,

RICHARD SEWELL,

STEPHEN BORDLEY,

BEN. NOBBS,

GEORGE TUBMAN,

HUGH JONES,

THO. COCKSHOTT.

MARYLAND PORT, May the 18th, 1696.

Maryland, ss.

An account of the several Parishes within this Province (according as they were by Act laid out), together with the bounds of the same, the names of the Vestrymen and number of tytheables within such Parish, viz^t:

St Mary's County is divided into two Parishes between Newtown Hundred and Clement's Hundred by Mr. Langworth's branch, which leads to Petuxant main road, and the said branch divides the said Hundreds and Parishes hereafter named, that is to say, the Lower, called by the name of William and Mary Parish, and the Upper, called by the name of King and Queen Parish.

Vestrymen for William and Mary Parish chosen, viz':

Mr. Kenelm Cheseldyn,	Mr. John Watson,	Taxables, 532.
Major John Campbell,	Mr. John Llewelin,	
Mr. Robert Mason,	Mr. Tho ^a Beal.	

Vestrymen for King and Queen Parish chosen, viz':

Col ^l Nehemiah Blackston,	Capt ^a John Dent,	Taxables, 473.
Capt ^a John Cood,	Mr. Philips Brisco,	
Mr. Rich ^d Clouds,	Mr. John Bartcroft.	

Calvert County is divided into four Parishes, viz': Christ Church, All Saints', St. Paul's, and All Faiths'.

Christ Church Parish consists of the following Hundreds, viz': Hunting Creek, Leonard's Creek, Olton Head, and Lower Hundred of the Clifts.

Vestrymen for the s^d Parish chosen, viz':

Mr. Richard Smith,	Mr. Francis Mauldin,	Taxables, 537.
Capt ^a Tho ^a Clegat,	Mr. John Manning,	
Mr. Henry Fexnleys,	Mr. Samuel Holdsworth.	

All Saints' Parish consists of these two following Hundreds, viz': Lyons Creek and the Upper Hundred of the Clifts.

Vestrymen for the s^d Parish chosen, viz':

Mr. Walter Smith,	Mr. John Acot,	Taxables, 507.
Mr. W ^m Nicholls,	Mr. John Leech, Jun ^r ,	
Mr. W ^m Turner,	Mr. John Hance.	

Saint Paul's Parish consists of the following bounds, viz': from the upper part of Mount Calvert Hundred to the main branch of Swanson's Creek.

Vestrymen for the s^d Parish chosen, viz':

Mr. Thomas Brown,	Mr. Richard Charleton,	Taxables, 500.
Mr. Thomas Grossfield,	Mr. W ^m Barton,	
Mr. Thomas Hollyday,	Mr. Sam ^l Magruthen.	

All Faiths' Parish consists of the following bounds, viz': from the main branch of Swanson's Creek to the lower part of Harvy Hundred.

Vestrymen for the s^d Parish chosen, viz^t:

Mr. James Keech,	Mr. John Gillam,	Taxables, 278.
Mr. John Smith,	Mr. Charles Askue,	
Mr. Rich ^d Southern,	Capt ^a Rich ^d Gardner.	

Charles County is divided into four Parishes, viz^t: William & Mary, Portobacco, Narjemy, and Piscattoway, the bounds whereof being artificial & somewhat long, have omitted to insert them here.

Vestrymen for W^m & Mary Parish chosen, viz^t:

Col ^l John Courts,	Mr. Henry Hardy,	Taxables, 258.
Mr. Robert Yates,	Mr. John Wilson,	
Mr. W ^m Hawton,	Mr. Wm. Harbert.	

Vestrymen for Portobacco Parish chosen, viz^t:

Mr. Henry Hawkins,	Mr. Keyborne Lomax,	Taxables, 298.
Mr. W ^m Barton,	Mr. John Hawkins,	
Mr. Philip Hopkins,	Mr. John Harrison.	

Vestrymen for Narjemy Parish chosen, viz^t:

Mr. John Stone,	Mr. W ^m Stone,	Taxables, 175.
Mr. John Manning,	Mr. Rich ^d Harrison,	
Mr. W ^m Dent,	Mr. Gerard Fowkes.	

Vestrymen for Piscattoway Parish chosen, viz^t:

John Addison, Esq ^{re} ,	Mr. W ^m Garneyhill,	Taxables, —
Mr. W ^m Hatton,	Mr. John Emmett,	
Mr. W ^m Hutchison,	Mr. James Stoddart.	

Arrundell County is divided into four Parishes, viz^t: Herring Creek, South River, Middle Neck, and Broad Neck.

Herring Creek Parish consists of Herring Creek Hundred and the major part of West River Hundred.

Vestrymen for the s^d Parish chosen, viz':

Thomas Tench, Esq ^r ,	Capt ^a Rob ^t Lockwood,	
M ^r . Seth Briggs,	M ^r . James Rigby,	Taxables, 507.
Capt ^a W ^m Holland,	M ^r . Nich ^a Jerret.	

South River Parish consists of South River Hundred and a small part of West River Hundred.

Vestrymen for the s^d Parish chosen, viz':

Capt ^a Henry Hanslop,	M ^r . Edw ^d Burgess,	
M ^r . John Grosham,	M ^r . Walter Phelps,	Taxables, 460.
M ^r . W ^m Roper,	M ^r . John Watkins.	

Middle Neck Parish is situated betwixt South River and Severn River.

Vestrymen for the s^d Parish chosen, viz':

M ^r . Thomas Bland,	M ^r . Jacob Harness,	
M ^r . Richard Wharfield,	M ^r . W ^m Brown,	Taxables, 374.
M ^r . Lawrence Draper,	M ^r . Cornelius Howard.	

Broad Neck Parish is situated on the north side of Swansea River, including Town Neck and Broad Neck Hundreds.

Vestrymen for the s^d Parish chosen, viz':

M ^r . John Bennet,	M ^r . George Eager,	
M ^r . W ^m Hopkins,	M ^r . Hugh Merriman,	Taxables, 223.
M ^r . Robert Eagle,	M ^r . Edw ^d Fulton.	

Baltimore County. The Division of the Parishes and Bounds thereof have not as yet been returned by the Clerk of the said County, but do find by the returns of the several Vestrymen that the said County is divided into three Parishes, viz': Patapsco Cats, St. Paul's, St. John's Parish, and St. George's Parish.

Vestrymen for Patapsco Cats, St. Paul's Parish, as by return, viz':

M ^r . John Terry,	M ^r . Rich ^d Samson,	
M ^r . W ^m Wilkinson,	M ^r . John Hays,	Taxables, 218.
M ^r . Rich ^d ———	M ^r . Nich ^a Corban.	

Vestrymen for St. John's Parish, as by return, viz^t:

M ^r . Thomas Stayley,	M ^r . Sam ^l Ticklemore,	
Cap ^t Tho ^s Preston,	M ^r . Daniel Scott,	Taxables, 128.
M ^r . Richard Adams,	M ^r . Abraham Taylor.	

Vestrymen for St. George's Parish, as by return, viz^t:

M ^r . W ^m Hollace,	M ^r . George Smith,	
M ^r . Lawrence Taylor,	M ^r . Roger Mathews,	Taxables, 137.
M ^r . John Packer,	M ^r . Thomas Cordea.	

Cecil County is divided into two Parishes, viz^t: South Sassafras and North Sassafras.

The bounds of South Sassafras consist of these following Hundreds, viz^t: Worton and South Sassafras Hundreds.

Vestrymen for the s^d Parish, as by return, viz^t:

Col ^l W ^m Pierce,	M ^r . W ^m . Elms,	
M ^r . W ^m Harris,	M ^r . George Stourton,	Taxables, 350.
M ^r . Edward Blay,	M ^r . Edw ^d Skidmor.	

North Sassafras Parish consists of Bohemia and Elk Hundreds.

Vestrymen for the s^d Parish, as by return, viz^t:

Col ^l C ^m Henner,	M ^r . Hen ^y Rigg,	
Major John Thompson,	M ^r . Matth ^s Van Deusen,	Taxables, 321.
M ^r . W ^m Ward,	M ^r . Henry Jones,	

Kent County is divided into two Parishes, viz^t: Kent Island and Saint Paul's Parish. Kent Island Parish is bounded naturally within itself.

Vestrymen for the s^d Parish chosen, viz^t:

M ^r . John Coppage,	M ^r . Alex ^r Walker,	
Col ^l W ^m Lawrence,	M ^r . Edw ^d James,	Taxables, 146.
M ^r . Philip Conner,	M ^r . Valentine Southern.	

St. Paul's Parish consists of the rest of the County.

Vestrymen for the s^d Parish chosen, viz^t:

Mr. W ^m Frisby,	Mr. Charles Gilden,	
Mr. Michael Miller,	Mr. Thomas Smith,	Taxables, 534.
Mr. Hans Hanson,	Mr. Seymour Wilmore.	

Talbot County is divided into three Parishes, viz^t: St. Paul's, St. Peter's, and St. Michael's Parish.

St. Paul's Parish begins at the head of Chester River and extends to the Court-house, and from the Court-house along the north side of Brown's Branch to the head of the said Branch, and from thence to Judwin's Branch, being the north part of Tuckahoe.

Vestrymen for the s^d Parish chosen, viz^t:

Major W ^m Finney,	Mr. Nathaniel Wright,	
Mr. W ^m Cowley,	Mr. Robert Macklin,	Taxables, 606.
Mr. John Whittington,	Mr. John Chairs.	

St. Peter's Parish begins at John Judwin's Branch, and extends to Oxford Town.

Vestrymen for the s^d Parish chosen, viz^t:

Mr. Tho ^s Robins,	Mr. Nich ^s Lowe,	
Mr. Tho ^s Bowdle,	Mr. Sam ^l Abbott, Sen ^r ,	Taxables, 453.
Mr. George Robins,	Mr. Thomas Martin.	

St. Michael's Parish consists of Mill and Bray Hundreds, and part of Island Hundred, that is to say, from the Court-house downward.

Vestrymen for the s^d Parish chosen, viz^t:

Capt ^r John Davies,	Mr. Michael Gurbret,	
Capt ^r James Murphy,	Mr. Hugh Sherwood,	Taxables, 485.
Mr. Tho ^s Smithson,	Mr. John Power.	

Dorchester County is divided into two Parishes, viz^t: Great Choptank and Dorchester Parish, The bounds whereof being artificial and somewhat

long, I have not here inserted, but are entered among the Council proceedings had and taken in Sir Edmund Andros's time, being then returned, but no account of the Vestrymen was therein, yet do find by a return of the Vestry of Great Choptank Parish these following persons Vestrymen, viz^t:

Phil. Hill,	John Pierson,	
Obadiah King,	Fra. Hayward,	Taxables, 407.
Edw ^d Stephens,	John Locompt.	

Vestrymen for Dorchester Parish, as by return:

M ^r . Arthur Wheatley,	M ^r . Thomas Vicars,	
M ^r . W ^m Robson,	M ^r . James Moply,	Taxables, 221.
M ^r . John Butten,	M ^r . W ^m Shinton.	

Somerset County is divided into four Parishes, viz^t: Somerset, Coventry, Stepney, Snow Hills.

Somerset Parish consists of Monokin and Manny Hundreds.

Vestrymen for the s^d Parish, as by return, viz^t:

John Hewett,	Nath ^l Horsey,	
Rich ^d Chambers,	Miles Gray,	Taxables, 304.
John Panter,	Peter Elzey.	

Coventry Parish consists of Pocomoke and Annamessex Hundreds.

Vestrymen for the s^d Parishes by return, viz^t:

M ^r . Francis Jenkins,	M ^r . W ^m Planner,	
M ^r . George Layfield,	M ^r . Tho ^s Dixon,	Taxables, 369.
M ^r . Tho ^s Ruball,	M ^r . W ^m Colebourn.	

Stepney Parish consists of Wiccocomors and Nantockce Hundreds.

Vestrymen for the s^d Parish, as by return, viz^t:

M ^r . John Hewett, Clerk,		
M ^r . James Weatherley,	M ^r . Rob ^t Collyer,	
M ^r . John Bounds,	M ^r . Tho ^s Holdbrook,	Taxables, 362.
M ^r . Philip Carter,	M ^r . Philip Ashew.	

Snow Hill Parish consists of Poynedenorton and Mattapany Hundreds.
Vestrymen for the s^d Parish, as by return, viz^t:

Mr. Matthew Scarborough,	Mr. Tho ^s Poynter,	
Mr. William Round,	Mr. Tho. Selby,	Taxables, 353.
Mr. John Franklin,	Mr. Edw ^d Hammond.	

(A true Copy.)

HEN. DENTON, Clk. Council.

*Return of Romish Priests and Lay Brothers resident in the
Province of Maryland, together with returns of Quakers
and other Dissenters.*

In obedience to an order of His Excellency the Governor and Council, dated the 10th of August, 1697, commanding the several Sheriffs of this Province to return a list of what Romish Priests and Lay Brothers are resident in their respective Countys, and what Churches, Chappels, or places of worship they have, what manner of buildings they are, and in what places situate, and return also a like account about the Quakers and other Dissenters from the Church of England, and of their places of worship, &c.

The several Sheriffs do return their Answers as follows, viz^t:

1st. The Sheriff of Ann Arundell County:

There is neither Priest nor Lay Brother.

The Quakers have one new timber work meeting-house, built at West River, upon land formerly Mr. Francis Hooker's, by them purchased to the quantity of two acres, where they keep their yearly meeting (which is at Whitsuntide).

Also a quarterly meeting at the house of Sam^l Chew.

Also a monthly meeting in Herring Creek meeting-house, standing on land purchased of Sam^l Chew. Also a weekly meeting at the same house. Also monthly and weekly meetings at the house of W^m Richardson, Sen^r, West River.

Also a weekly meeting at the house of Ann Lumbolt, near the head of South River.

Also a monthly meeting at the house of John Belt.

So far as I have the account from M^r. Richardson, I can understand of no preachers they have in this country, but M^r. W^m Richardson and Samuel Galloway's wife.

The Sheriff of Baltimore County:

That there is neither teacher nor place of worship, either of Roman Catholics or Quakers.

The Sheriff of Calvert County:

There is neither Priest nor Lay Brother, or any of their Churches or Chapels.

The Quakers have one very old meeting-house near Leonard's Creek, and one place of meeting in the dwelling-house of George Royston, at the Clifts.

The Sheriff of Prince George County:

There is neither Papist, Priest, Lay Brother, Parish Church, Chapel, nor Quakers' meeting-house.

The Sheriff of Charles County:

Here are three Romish Priests, and one Lay Brother, viz': Rich^d Hubbert Fryar, after the Order of St. Francis; W^m Hunter & Rob^t Brook, of the Order of the Jesuits; W^m Burley, Lay Brother; and the places of worship are, one Chapel, near Newport Town, about 40 feet long and about 20 feet wide, has been built above twenty years. Also another Chapel, at Major W^m Boroman's, about 30 feet long and 20 wide, being within two miles of the aforesaid, and has been built about 16 or 18 years; also a place of worship commonly used at Priest Hubbert's own dwelling-house, about a mile and a half from the aforesaid Chapel, and another at M^r. Hunter's, living at Port Tobacco, a house fitting up for a Chapel near the dwelling-house of the said Hunter, which is the present place of meeting.

Two Quakers, but none of their meeting-houses.

The Sheriff of St. Mary's County:

LIST OF ROMISH PRIESTS, &c.

M^r. John Hall, M^r. Nicholas Gewlick.

One Lay Brother at St. Inagoe's.

. Chapels.

1 Brick Chapel at St. Mary's.

1 Wooden Chapel at M^r. Gewlick's Plantation.

1 Wooden Chapel at Clement's Town.

1 Wooden Chapel beyond Petuxant Road, near M^r. Hayward's.

As to Quakers and Dissenters,—none in the County.

Eastern Shore.

The Sheriff of Somerset County:

Here are neither Popish Priests, Lay Brothers, nor any of their Chapels.

As to the Quakers and other Dissenters, to the first, none as I know of particularly, and the other hath a house at Snow hill.

One at the Road going up along the Sea side, and one at Nearoakin, about 30 feet long, plain Country buildings, all of them.

The Sheriff of Dorchester County:

No Romish Priest nor Dissenting Ministers in my Provinces.

The Sheriff of Talbot County:

No Romish Priest nor Lay Brother residing within the County; as to their places of worship, Clapboard house at Doncaster Town.

As to the Quakers' places of worship, they have a small meeting-house at Ralph Fishbourne's, and another at Howell Powsby, another between King's Creek and Tuckahoe; these are Clapboard houses about 20 feet long. Another framed house at the head of Tread Havon Creek, about 50 feet long.

The Sheriff of Kent County:

No Popish Priest nor Lay Brother, nor public place of their worship in this County; only 3 Papists, viz':

Edm ^d Mackdonall,	} <i>Papists.</i>
Tho. Collins,	
James Bruard,	

A List of Quakers.

Morgan Brown,	Jn ^o Flosier,	Edw ^d Walwin,
Eliza, his Wife,	Rebecca, his Wife,	Philip Everett,
Dan ^l Norris,	Rob ^t George,	Barbara, his Wife,
Susannah Thomas,	Dennis Clark,	Joan Workman,
W ^m True, Sen ^r ,	Edw ^d Fry,	Geo. Elliott,
Eliza, his Wife,	Sarah Toas,	John Parson,
W ^m True, Jun ^r ,	Daniel & John,	James Wilson,
Nath ^l Keddy,	her Sons,	Dorothy Price.

Their place of Worship is upon a branch of a Creek running out of Chester River, called Island Creek, the house about 30 feet long and 20 wide, with a partition, after the manner of a tobacco house, near which is a piece of ground paled in, where they bring their dead, about 50 feet square.

MAY THE 24th, 1698.

This is an Abstract of the several Sheriffs' returns to the within order.

W^m BLADEN, Clk. Council.

An Account of Glebe lands within the province of Maryland, according to returns made of the same by the Sheriffs, viz':

A Plantation in St. George's Hundred, given by one Cagen to the Church there, which is now within the Parish of William and Mary, in St. Mary's County.

Two hundred acres of land called the Addition, given by will of one Rich^d Randall, of Charles County, towards the maintenance of a Protestant minister there, and lies within the Parish of Nanjemoy.

Capt^a Ladd, of Christ Church Parish, in Calvert County, hath given 250 acres of land (by will) to the Church. As also M^r. John Manning, of the s^d County and Parish, hath given 100 acres to the Minister.

(A true Copy.)

HEN. DENTON, Clk. of Council.

By his Excellency the Captain General, &c.

A PROCLAMATION.

MARYLAND, ss.

WHEREAS, I have lately received credible information from Charles County and other parts of this His Majesty's Province, how that several Popish Priests and zealous Papists make it their constant business (under pretence of visiting the sick during this time of common calamity and sickness) to seduce, delude, and persuade divers of His Majesty's good Protestant subjects to the Romish faith, by which means sundry of the Inhabitants of this His Majesty's Province have been withdrawn from the Protestant religion by law established, and from the due and natural obedience they owe to his s^d Majesty and laws, whereby the party so reconciled and withdrawn, as well as their procurers and counsellors, have justly incurred the penalty and forfeitures as in cases of high treason, if thereof lawfully convicted, &c., as by the Statute of the 23rd of Elizabeth and divers other Statutes does evidently and plainly appear. And forasmuch as it hath been likewise represented unto me how that Protestant Servants living with Popish Recusants are restrained from going to Church: for prevention of all such mischiefs and growing evils for the future I have thought fit (by and with the advice and consent of His Majesty's Honorable Council and Members of the House of Delegates in Assembly now sitting) to issue this my Proclamation strictly prohibiting and forewarning all Priests and Papists whatsoever to desist and forbear such their notorious and open violation of His Majesty's known laws, under pain

of prosecution and suffering such penalties as by the s^d Laws are prescribed, as also of the parties so withdrawn and reconciled to the Romish faith as aforesaid. And I have further thought fit hereby likewise to signify that by the aforementioned Statute, It is Enacted and Declared that all and every person and persons that shall willingly be aiders or maintainers of such persons so offending, as is above expressed, or of any of them knowing the same, or which shall conceal any offence as aforesaid, and shall not within twenty days at the farthest after such person's knowledge of such offence disclose the same to some Justice of Peace or other higher Officer, shall be taken, tryed, and judged, and shall suffer the forfeits as Offenders in misprision of treason, of which said Clause in the afore-recited Statute all persons are hereby cautioned and strictly enjoined and required to take notice and conform themselves thereto accordingly, under the penalties therein contained, and do by and with the advice and consent aforesaid, strictly charge and command that no Popish Recusant whatsoever living within this His Majesty's Province, having any Protestant Servants or other persons under his, her, or their jurisdiction and power, do any ways restrain or hinder them from going to the respective Parish Churches under the severest penalties, and to the end due notice hereof may be given, I do strictly command the several Sheriffs of the Province to publish this my Proclamation in all Churches, Chapels, and other public places of worship and meeting within their respective Counties, whereof they are in no wise to fail at their peril. Given in the town and port of Annapolis, under the Broad Seal of the Province, this 29th day of March, 1698, and in the tenth year of His Majesty's Reign. God save the King.

(True Copy, examined by the Original.)

W. BLADEN, Conc.

Gov. FRAS NICHOLSON to the Archb^t of Canterbury.

(EXTRACT.)

MARYLAND, PORT ANAPOLIS, May 26th, '98.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR GRACE,

I am highly honoured with your Grace's of 7th Oct^r, 16—, and hope in God that before this, by your Grace's Interest, the laws are passed, especially that for free schools. Your Grace's great condescension in sending me the Extracts of sev^l Letters of Priests, &c., relating to their having hopes of spreading Popery here more than formerly, I hope in God to make such use of as to countermine their wicked designs. And I presume to send your Grace the enclosed Copy of Proclamation concerning you, as also one of His Majesty's Royal Instructions to me, by which y^r Grace may [be] pleased to see that they are not expected here, as in Virginia, so that with humble submission to your Grace's greater wisdom, except His Majesty be pleased to keep this Government, and except them, as in Virginia that idolatrous religion will still continue as it is, if not increase. But I intend (God willing) to put all the rubs I can in their way.

F. NICHOLSON.

*The humble Address of yo^r Majesty's loving & dutifull subjects
your Council & Burgesses of this present Gen Assembly
of Maryland.*

To y^r King's Most Excellent Majesty.

DREAD SOVEREIGN,

Having of late been blessed with y^r Majesty's immediate Government and protection of us, we did, at y^a first Assembly, take into consideration y^a settle-

ment of Religion here, according to y^e fundamentals of y^e Church of Engl^d, as y^t which we conceived to be o^r Duty to God, yo^r Majesty, and ourselves, and most acceptable, which, being contained in an Act of Assembly to y^e purpose, we humbly presented to your Majesty for your royal assent thereto.

But being lately informed y^t, because y^e same Act was not so concise in y^e Words as might be drawn, and y^t y^e same contained matters of diverse natures, your Majesty did not think fit to pass y^e same as it was then drawn.

Therefore in y^e last Assembly of this Province, held at y^e Majesty's port of Annapolis, y^e 10th day of July, 1696, we did revise and amend y^e s^d Act by y^e best methods and form we were capable of, which we have presented to yo^r Majesty, humbly praying by y^t, as we doe by this, for yo^r Majesty's royal Assent thereunto, by which We shall, we hope, be blessed with y^e glorious light of y^e Gospel amongst us in a more lively and plentiful manner than heretofore: whereby we shall be more perfectly instructed in our duty to God and yo^r Majesty, and with greater delight attend both.

We humbly hope y^t there-is nothing in this Act y^t may hinder yo^r royal Assent, y^t so y^e purest of Christian religion may be settled amongst us, beyond y^e Malice of yo^r Majesty's & our Enemy's to disturbe or Change.

Nor can we discern any thing of a different Nature therein, save one clause affecting y^e rights and privileges of yo^r Majesty's loving Subjects here, which we find in former laws of Religion by yo^r Majesty's royal predecessor granted and frequently reiterated, and is granted to yo^r Majesty's subjects here in y^e Grant of this Province to y^e Lord Baltemore, to be extended to y^e under his Lordship's Government: And we dare not conceive but y^t your Majesty will extend y^e same Benediction to us under your immediate Government, and be graciously pleased to grant your royal assent to y^e said Act.

And we are y^e nearer concerned to supplicate yo^r Majesty in this behalf upon reflection of y^e late usage of yo^r Majesty's Secretary, S^r Thomas Laurence, here.

These things we humbly lay before yo^r Maj^{ty}, and submitting y^e same wholly to yo^r Majesty's Wisdom, humbly beseech yo^r Majesty y^t if you shall not see convenient to pass y^e s^d Act as it is now drawn, y^t you will be graciously pleased to cause your royal instructions to be sent to us, directing how we shall compose y^e same for yo^r royal Assent, and in y^e mean time y^t y^e same may continue to us as it is now drawn, for continuing Religion and y^e light of y^e Gospel amongst us, till by another Act to be composed for y^e purpose,

this shall be repealed, and yo^r Majesty's loyal and loving subjects shall ever pray for yo^r Majesty's long, glorious, & happy reign over us.

And we most humbly hope and pray y^t your Majesty will now be graciously pleased to stamp our law for Free Schools with yo^r royal Approbation and Assent, being by us revised and amended according to your Majesty's Instructions, by w^{ch} y^e Childreⁿ, yet unborn may bless and praise y^r glorious Name, as do yo^r Majesty's most loyal and loving subjects.

Duplicat Signed by y^e hon'ble his Maj^{ty}'s Council and y^e House of Burgesses :

KENELM CHISELDIN, Speaker,
 THOMAS WANGHOP,
 PHILIP CLARK,
 W^m FRISBY.
 JOHN HINSON,
 HANS HANSON,
 THO : SMITH,
 EDWrd DORSEY,
 JAMES SANDERS,
 THO : TASKER,
 JAMES CRAWFORD,
 FRANCIS HUTCHINS,
 W^m SMITH,
 HENRY HAWKINS,
 JAMES SMALLWOOD,
 W^m DENT,
 PHILIP HOSKINS,
 EDWrd BOOTHBY,
 JOHN HALL,
 GEO : ASHMAN,
 JOHN FERRY,
 ROBERT SMITH,
 THO : SMITHSON,
 W^m HEMSELY,
 W^m COURSEY,

W^m BLADEN, Cl. Assembly,
 THO : LAURENSE,
 HEN. JOWLS,
 NICHOLAS GREENBERRY,
 CHARLES HUTCHINS,
 DAVID BROWN,
 JAMES FRISBY,
 FRANCIS JENCKINS,
 MATTHEW SCARBOROUGH,
 THO : DIXON,
 JOHN BOZMAN,
 THO : HICKS,
 HENRY HOOPER,
 JOHN POLLARD,
 W^m HATTON,
 EDWARD W. BLAY,
 CASPER A. HERMON,
 JOHN THOMSON,
 NINIA BEAL,
 W^m HUTCHISON,
 W^m BURTON.

[Council.]

[A true Copy.]

HEN. DENTON, Clerk of Council.

AT Y^e COURT AT KENSINGTON,
Y^e 30th day of Feb., 1699.

Present :

THE KING'S MOST EXCELLENT MAJESTY IN COUNCIL.

Whereas, by powers granted under y^e great Seal of England to Col. Francis Nicholson, Capt^a Gen^l and Govern^r in chief of his Maj^{ty}'s Province of Maryland, in America, dated y^e 10th day of February, in y^e 5th year of his Majesty's Reign, as allso to Col. Nathaniel Blakistone, Capt^a gen^l and Govern^r in chief of y^e s^d Province, dated y^e 9th day of October, in y^e 10th Year of his Majesty's reign, y^e Govern^r, Council, and Assembly of y^e Province have been empowered to constitute and ordain laws w^{ch} are to be in force untill his Majesty's pleasure be signified to y^e contrary.

And for as much as in pursuance of y^e same power, two laws have been passed in y^e gen^l Assembly of y^e s^d province in y^e years 1696, and one thousand six hundred ninety-nine, the first intituled an Act for the Service of Almighty God, &c., y^e establishment of y^e Protestant Religion within this Province, wherein is a Clause declaring all y^e laws of England to be in force in Maryland; which Clause is of another nature than what is set forth by y^e Title of y^e s^d law; the other law being intituled an Act appertaining y^e laws of this Province, which laws, having been perused by y^e Lords Commis^{rs} of Trade & Plantations, and thereupon presented at this Board for his Majesty's Determination concerning y^e s^d laws, his Majesty in Council is pleased to signify his disapprobation and disallowance of y^e s^d laws: And according to his Majesty's pleasure y^e s^d laws are hereby repealed and declared void and of nore effect.

JOHN POVEY.

Gov. BLAKISTON to the Archb^t of Canterbury.

MARYLAND, 10th April, 1700.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR GRACE,

By the hands of D^r. Bray I had a signal favor and honor conferred upon me in the receipt of your Letter of 7th Nov^r, by which I find myself happy in your Grace's good wishes for me, and lay under the misfortune of being an absolute stranger to your Grace at my coming here, but hope you will pardon me if I tell your Grace I am sorry for the occasion (which is by a law that is dropped), though it will give me a handle to confirm you not only of my principles, but my true zeal for the Church of England, by disannulling the s^d law, which has but lately occurred here, to our great surprize.

I did flatter myself, notwithstanding the pageantry and boast of some people, that the Church was in all moral probability not to be shocked by a mean party within ourselves here, whose interest at home I took to be slender, and did believe that we only wanted D^r. Bray to make some regulations amongst us with his good example, which I do not doubt but he would have effectually done, had not we been unhinged, as I am afraid I may too justly term it, for in the same Ship which brought us the worthy gentleman came an Order of Council for the disannulling the law for religion, which consequently has taken off the 40 ⁷/₈ poll, of which I have here lent your Grace a Copy to avoid being [MS. illegible.]

I cannot omit to acquaint your Grace that I have not yet had . . . [MS. illegible] . . . to me by either of . . . [MS. illegible] . . . of it was its being publicly delivered me by the Quakers, which was in addition to your surprize . . . [MS. illegible] . . . the Quakers' interest have been too prevalent, which the malice of some others who are above me, and therefore not fit for me to conceive, but I crave leave to tell your Grace it has so awakened me that I have not employed my thoughts in any Public affairs but in consulting with D^r. Bray, the most prudent method to reestablish it again. Though he is a Stranger in the province I am not, and I have endeavored to possess him with the first information I am capable of, and of what I intended to offer to the Council, which met yesterday. In order to retrieve our misfortune, he was pleased to approve of my weak conduct in

the matter, but wth all I assured him, if he did conceive any other methods more advantageous, I was ready to close with him, and decline my own.

I must acquaint your Grace that I have contrived it so that the Assembly shall meet the 26th of this month, though privately I crave leave to signify to your Grace I ought to have some farther instructions before from home, but D^r. Bray, with myself, and all those who are well inclined to the Church, are positively of Opinion that if I defer meeting the Assembly longer we shall certainly lose our glorious Cause, for the Quakers will be able to make their interest better; besides, it is discovered as it is, M^r. Penn will be this way towards Whitsuntide, whose head will be privately at work, no doubt, as an enemy to us in his advice.

I do not foresee any prejudice it will be in calling the Assembly, only am afraid what I have done out of a true affection to the Church may by some be rendered to my [dis]advantage at home, though I have the vanity to hope it must be grounded upon nothing but my appearing was upon this occasion, is this Assembly should obtrude, and reviving by law and clogging it. I am resolved to dismiss them, and try another. I shall take care to have all my proceedings upon Record, both with the Council and Assembly, or to be sent to your Grace if necessity requires it. I hope my Actions will be so justifiable to stand the test of the most malicious. D^r. Bray has seen what has yet past. I have given him the Characters of both the Council and Assembly to transmit to your Grace, who are for and against us. As soon as possible I was capable of making a judgment, I must confess I have great hopes of our success. The good agreement and harmony that has been kept with the Assembly and myself gives me some hopes they will not gravell me in my first request. I crave leave to refer your Grace to D^r. Bray for a more ample information of our affairs, having already from fear exceeded the bounds of what becomes him who is, with all Duty,

Y^r Grace's most humble and

Most obedient Son & Servant,

N. BLACKISTON.

MARYLAND, the 28th May, 1700.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR GRACE,

I did, on the 10th of April last, Address your Grace with a long letter, but the subject upon which it was founded will, I hope, plead my pardon for that familiar application. I am now to acquaint your Grace that, by God's assistance, all our fears are dissipated, and the law for establishing the Protestant religion is revived again, so that I hope the malice of our enemys the Quakers has rather tendered to our service than otherwise, for it has given us an handle to put it now upon such a foot that I cannot possibly be unhinged again. It is now washed and purged of all the Dregs that were the cause of its being disassented to, for it now contains nothing but what is essential to its own constitution, as your Grace, I hope, will find the copy here enclosed from D^r. Bray.

I have with all imaginable zeal endeavored . . . this good work, and beg leave to assure your Grace that my endeavours for the promotion of the Church shall never be wanting in me, and desire only your Grace will allow my Actions to be the standard of what I have professed so solemnly to a person of your piety and Honorable Station. The Address of the Council and Assembly is here likewise transmitted to your Grace and my Lord of London, to beg your patronage and favour to His Majesty in laying it before him, lest it should be stifled. I crave leave to refer you to D^r. Bray for the reason why we apply to y^r Grace in this affair, not being too proper for me to mention. I am sensible y^r Grace's minutes are very precious, so will not presume to trouble you any further, but that I am, &c.,

N. BLACKISTON.

The Present State of the Protestant Religion in Maryland.

In the year 1691, his Majesty, having graciously thought fit to take the Government of Maryland into his own hands, and the province into his immediate care, in May, 1692, an Act of Assembly pass'd for the establishment of the Protestant religion there, and for dividing of the ten counties

thereof into five-and-twenty parishes, each of which are endowed with a competent maintenance for a minister, but the execution of that Act hath been in a manner wholly neglected, till it pleased His Majesty to confer the Government on the most worthy and excellent person, Francis Nicholson, Esq^r., who, since his arrival in August, 1694, with an indefatigable Industry and Zeal to promote His Majesty's honour, the Interest of the Protestant Religion, and the good of the whole province, hath revived and reinforced the said Act by another additional one for the increase and maintenance of religion, hath collected the arrears, and is now building several Churches, besides one Fine Church at Annapolis, in Arundel County, with a Parsonage House to every Church, Towards all which His Excellency's the Council and other inhabitants of the Province have generously and largely contributed.

And that a perpetual succession of Protestant divines of the Church of England may be provided for the propagation of the true Christian Religion in the said Colony, His Excellency hath, by the consent of the Council and Burgesses in assembly, promoted a law, vesting a power in certain trustees for erecting one Free School in each County, one of which is already begun at Annapolis, and is to be endowed with £100 sterling p^r annum for the maintenance of one master and two ushers, for instructing the youth of the said province in Arithmetick, Navigation, and all useful learning, but chiefly for the fitting such as are disposed to study divinity, to be further Educated at his Majesty's College Royal in Virginia, in order upon their return to be ordained by the Bishop of London Suffragan residing in the Province, both for that purpose and to supervise the lives of the Clergy thereof, for whose support also, at the request and recommendation of the assembly, His Excellency hath settled fair and competent maintenance.

The person now deputed by the Lord Bishop of London to be his Commissary in Maryland for the Propagation of our most Holy Religion amongst the infidels, for the inducement of sober and serious young Divines to go to the foreign Plantations, and for the better qualifying them for so noble and Christian an employment, is now wholly busied in collecting of Parochial Libraries of Choice and useful books for the Perpetual use of such of the Clergy who shall now undertake that Voyage, and for all those who shall succeed them. And certainly a more suitable encouragement to men of good parts, and inclinations, to go upon so blessed a Mission, could not be thought of; for as it is Books alone which will encourage the most studious, virtuous,

and consequently the most useful persons to go over, so it is an encouragement that is in a manner necessary to be provided in the Foreign Plantations; since few or none at their first going over are in a condition to provide themselves therewith; and when they are there, Books are hardly to be met with by those who shall be able to buy them. And yet without a competent provision of several useful and necessary books, it is morally impossible that any should be enabled to instruct their people.

And now that such excellent works are jointly begun and carrying on, what a happy conjuncture is this (which, perhaps, may not again recur) for persons who are piously dispos'd to give their helping hand towards such Blessed and Glorious designs as the propagating of True Christian Knowledge and Practice, in places formerly so much uncultivated therewith. Surely if he who converteth a single sinner from the error of his ways, shall hide a multitude of sins, what abundant matter for comfortable reflections upon a Death Bed shall that person lay up, who shall contribute towards providing of the most proper and genuine means, next to the divinely-inspired writings, of converting many poor souls, not only in this, but in all future generations, even so long as the sun and moon endureth.

*A Memorial Representing the present Case of the Church
in Maryland.*

In y^e year 1691, His Ma^{ty} having Graciously taken y^e Province of Maryland, formerly under y^e Govern^{mt} of y^e L^d Baltimore, a Papist, under his Immediate Protection; In May, 1692, an Act of Assembly pass'd for th^e Establishment of y^e Protestant Religion therein, according to y^e Church of England (but wth a Toleration to Dissent^{rs} such as Provided by y^e Law in England), & for Dividing ye 10 Counties of y^e Province into 30 Parishes, wth a small Maintenance for a Minister in each Parish. But y^e Execution of y^e Law being suspended upon y^e Death of Col. Copley, then Gov^r, upon y^e Arrival of his Success^r, Gov^r Nicholson, y^e Law was Revis'd & Reinforc'd by

another additional Act, & the same was sent home for y^e R. Assent. But y^e Law having had a Clause in it of a different nature, Giving to y^e Colony all y^e Priviledges of Magna Charta, it was Rejected, his Ma^{ty} at y^e same time signifying very great Reluctancy, y^e a Law of y^e Nature should be Refused, and was most Graciously pleas'd to order y^e Instruccions should be sent to Maryland to have it Revis'd & Enacted in y^e next Assembly wthout such Clause.

In y^e year 1696 the Law of Religion was according to his Ma^{ty}'s Instruccions Revis'd & Reënacted, & was sent to y^e Lords of y^e Council of Trade; Together wth a most humble Address to be presented to his Ma^{ty} in y^e behalf of y^e s^d Law, Requesting wthall, that if this Second should be found Exceptionable, y^e Law might be sent from hence, drawn up to their hands, and they would readily pass it. But so it was that, without y^e knowledge of either of y^e Spiritual Lords in Council, or wthout y^e least Notice Given to such as were Concern'd therein in y^e behalf of y^e Country for y^e Defence of y^e s^d Law, att y^e Sollicitacon of y^e Quakers, an Order of Council pass'd Nov^r 30, 1699, for y^e Annulling of y^e Law, and was sent to y^e Gov^r of Maryland by y^e hands of M^r. Penn's Agent, one Singleton, a Quaker.

Upon notice in Maryland y^e y^e Law for Religion was Revers'd, & consequently y^e y^e Province must be left Destitute of a Protestant Ministry, & y^e at a Juncture when more Priests had of late come in than were before known in y^e Country at any one time, The Inhabitants were universally in a great Consternation, & their minds much Disquieted. And out of a Singular zeal for their Religion, Did in y^e next Assembly wth a *Nemine Contradicente* Reënact y^e Law, purging it according to y^e best of their skill, of all Clauses formerly excepted agst. And have withall sent home y^e same to y^e Lords of y^e Council of Trade, Together wth another most Humble Address to be presented to His Ma^{ty}, expressing y^e Earnest Desires of y^e whole Province to have y^e Protestant Religion according to y^e Church of England Establish^t, & its Ministry maintain'd amongst y^m. And y^e Gov^r & Council of Maryland have since, for the Satisfaction of y^e Lords of Trade, sent home these their Reasons why they have Reënacted y^e fores^d Law of Religion, viz^t, y^e y^e Greatest & most Eminent part of the Province are earnestly Sollicitous for Establishing our Religion, That it is their dearest Interest; and y^e with the greatest & most humble Acknowledgem^t they are sure it will be received by them & all his Ma^{ty}'s good subjects there.

The Sole Opposers of th^e Establishment of our Church & Clergy in y^e

Province are y^e Quakers and y^e Papists. And y^e two Principal reasons urg'd by y^e Quakers (for y^e Papists do not publickly appeare) are y^t they are ye Antient Seaters, who were Invited into the Province, & came there upon the Expectations of Liberty of Conscience. And y^t they are a Considerable part of the people, by w^{ch} they would Insinuate y^t it would be prejudicial to Trade y^t they should be aggriev'd by paym^t of Church dues. To w^{ch} y^e Council of Maryland have answered to this Effect, first, y^t so far were y^e Quakers from being y^e Antient Seaters, or at all invited to seat there, that when they first came in they were ordered by publick authority to be whipt out for disturbing ye Government & Refusing to bear a share in its Expences. That, notwthstanding y^e Legal Establishm^t of y^e Church of England, and y^e maintenance of its Clergy, a Liberty of Conscience is allow'd to y^m, and all Dissenters, according to Law. And Lastly, y^t so far are y^e Quakers at this time from being any Considerable part y^t they are Confident they will not make a twelveth part of the Province.

And now upon the Whole of this Case I humbly Crave Leave to Remark:

1. That y^e Law for th^e Establishm^t of y^e Church of England & y^e maintenance of its Clergy is y^e Country's own Act, and if y^e General Inclination of a People can be at all Concluded from the publick Acts of its Representatives, it must be in this Case Constru'd very much in favour of our Church & its Clergy, y^t notwthstanding such Difficulties, they should by four Succeeding Laws Establish y^m, & twice Address in their behalf wth a *Nemine Contradicente*.

2. That y^e Churches are now built throughout y^e Province, and y^t it would be y^e utmost Disconsolation to all good minds therein, to have their Churches turn'd into Popish Chappels, or Converted to any prophane Use.

3. That a Clergy have been sent over Seas at y^e repeated Sollicitations of y^e Country, who, by Several Letters sent from y^e Assembly, as well as from y^e Gov^r, did earnestly press y^e L'd B'p of London, & his Commissary, to supply y^m therewth, Giving all y^e Assurances of an Establish't maintenance, wthout w^{ch} & to live precariously, Persons of merit could not be prevailed upon

to go so many thousand miles; But upon y^e publick Faith & Credit of the Assembly of that Province have gone over.

4. His Ma^{ty} has been at very great Charges by several Royal Bounties out of his Treasury in Sending over Ministers. And y^e better to Enable y^m who have been Sent over to preach y^e Gospel, They have been fitted out wth good Libraries, to remain there for the use of them, & their Success^{rs} for ever, by a Noble Grant from his Ma^{ty}, & by y^e Bounty of her R. Highness y^e Princess of Denmark & many of y^e Nobility, Clergy, & Gentry throughout y^e K^gdom, whose great Charity will be Sunk & y^e Libraries y^mselves rendered useless, should the Clergy return home.

5. Should y^e Clergy be forc'd to return home, it will be an Extream Hardship upon those amongst y^m who are marry'd & have begun to Settle, as also, in some measure, to those who sent y^m.

6. But to be Deprived of its Ministers will be more Especially so to y^e Country, who do most heartily acknowledge how much y^e Face of Things has been alter'd for y^e better by y^e Increase of Morality & Honesty amongst y^m Since they have had a Clergy.

7. It do's y^e more Disquiet their minds to think of having their Clergy recalled at a Juncture when y^e Popish Priests are pouring in amongst y^m (no less than 6 having come in Last year, more than were Sent in of y^e Protestant Clergy, to whom they are now in a manner equall, there having been 6 in before). And if upon y^e wthdrawing of y^e Protestant Ministers y^e Province sh'd be left utterly destitute, & be totally deliver'd up to Popish Priests, their Condition would be most Disconsolate, or, as they y^mselves Express it, This would cause great Disquiet in the minds of His Ma^{ty}'s good Subjects there.

8. It may prove of fatal Consequence to his Ma^{ty}'s Interest to have y^e Country in y^e Center of all his Provinces on y^e Continent of America expos'd to y^e Perversions of y^e Popish Priests at a Juncture when y^e French from Canada are so notoriously Diligent in sending their Emissaries amongst y^e Indians lying on the back of this & th' other Colonies, to draw y^m into their Supstition & Alliance. Into whose Religion & Interests also should y^e Priests

bring Maryland, It is obvious to any y^t know its Scituation, how y^t would affect all th^e English Plantations on the Continent.

9. If it be thought advisable not to Disgust y^e Quakers, who are but a twelveth part of y^e Province, least it sh^d be prejudicial to Trade, Will it not be much more advisable, & y^t for y^e Sake of Trade, not to Disgust y^e Protestants, who are ten twelveths (allowing y^e Papists as well as y^e Quakers to be one); It being plain from y^e Premises y^t y^e Quakers, one twelveth part, can not have a greater Zeal ag^t the Establishm^t of our Religion, than the Protestants, who are tenn twelveths, have for it.

10. The Quakers have not y^e least reason to complain upon y^e account of so small a Paym^t to y^e National Church as y^e 40th of Tobacco & Poll, they being very far, as appears before, from having been Invited into y^e Province wth Promise of Liberty of Conscience. And who yet, notwthstanding th^e Establishm^t of our Church, as the Country declares, are p^rmitted the Quiet and peaceable Enjoym^t & Use of their Religion wthout y^e least Molestation. And Whereas, they think it an Infringm^t to their Liberty to pay Church dues, I humbly conceive where Liberty of Conscience is most allow^d, as in Holland, y^e National Church has y^e legal Maintenance at y^e Charge of all Perswasions. And in y^e Act of Toleration wth us there is a Proviso y^t Quakers & others should pay y^e Church dues.

Lastly, It is humbly desir^d it may be consider^d y^t y^e Maintenance of 40th of Tobacco & Pole is so far from being justly Invidious, y^t it is y^e poorest Support y^t I believe is given to y^e Clergy in any Church in y^e Chri^{an} World. It amounts not to above a 100th part of y^e Produce of y^t one Commodity of Tobacco, & there is nothing accrues from th^e Increase of any thing else. And, after all, it raises but a very poor Support for y^e Incumbent in a parish of 30, 40, or 50 Miles Length, & in all its Dimensions larger than some English Counties, And yet wth this Small Maintenance, because of y^e Vastness of the Parishes, the Clergy are at Extraordinary Expences, being often oblig^d to keep two Horses a piece to Ride into all y^e Parts of their Cures to Discharge their Ministerial Duties of Preaching, Visiting, Christⁿings, and Funerals.

I find th^e only Objection ag^t y^e Law itself, is y^e Generality of the Words,

And in other places of publick Worship, w^{ch} it is sayd may be Constru'd so, as by bringing y^e Comon Prayer into the Quakers' Meetings, to p^rjudice y^e Liberty of Conscience w^{ch} y^e Quakers enjoy.

To w^{ch} I humbly offer:

1. That y^e Attorney General declares y^t he believes it was not Intended by y^e Makers of y^e Law to prejudice Liberty of Conscience. And I humbly Conceive General Words cannot be construed to take away y^e Liberty w^{ch} other Laws do Expressly grant.

2. That, together wth y^e Law of Religion Confirm'd by his Ma^y, an Explanatory Bill be sent to Maryland to pass into a Law to take off all Danger of Intrenching upon their Liberty of Conscience.

3. Whereas, it may be urg'd y^t the R. Assent sh'd be Suspended til an Explanation upon these General Words be Return'd from Maryland, I humbly Conceive y^t thereby to prevent a very Remote, & Scarce possible Inconvenience, Severall present & Unavoidable Mischiefs will accrue, as:

(1.) That y^e Province will be continu'd under y^t Suspence, & Disquiet in their minds for want of having our Religion Establisht, under w^{ch} they have Lab'red these five years, & to my certain knowledge wth much Uneasiness, now especially y^t y^e Popish Priests are pouring in so fast upon y^m.

(2.) There are at present 15 Parish Churches vacant in Maryland, And y^e people in those Parishes do wth much Importunity press y^t they should be supply'd wth Ministers as well as the rest, they having been equally at Charges wth them in Building their Churches.

(3.) Til y^e Law shall be put beyond all Danger by having y^e R. Assent, we find it next to Impossible to have men of Worth go so many thousand miles. The known Methods w^{ch} y^e Quakers have so often taken wth success to Defeat y^e Law, increasing y^e uncertainty of an Establisht Church & maintenance too much to have persons go so far, & wth such Charge & Danger.

(4.) It is very p'bable y^e Assembly will be over before an Explanatory Bill can reach y^e, And then it will be almost two years til their Religion can receive an Establishm^t & a Clergy be sent, Except they shall Call an Assembly on purpose, w^{ch} will Cost ye Province £500.

(5.) Since y^e Quakers' late private manner of getting y^e Law of Religion annull'd has Created a Dissatisfacion both at Home, & in y^e Plantations, I humbly offer whether it may not be to his Ma^{ty}'s Service to have it Confirm'd by his R. Assent before y^e Parliam^t Sitts.

Opinion Respecting Act of Maryland Assembly.

Jan^y 11th, 1701.

To the Right Hon^{ble} the Lords Comm^{rs} for Trade and Plantations:

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR LORDSHIPS:

In obedience to your Lordship's Commands, signified to me by M^r. Popple the 30th of July last, I have considered of the acts past at a General Assembly held in Maryland the 26th day of April, 1700 (viz^t), "An act for the service of Almighty God and Establishment of Religion in this province, according to the Church of England," And do find by the act for the service of Almighty God and Establishment of Religion in that province according to the Church of England, It is enacted That the Book of Common Prayer and administration of the Sacraments, with other rites and ceremonies of the Church of England, the Psalter and Psalms of David, and Morning and Evening Prayer therein contained, be solemnly read, and by all and every minister or Reader in every Church or other place of public worship within that province, in which clause those words (or other place of Public Worship) are so general that they may be liable to be construed to extend as well to the places where any Dissenters from the Church of England meet together for Divine Worship after their way, as to the public Churches in that province, and though I believe this was not intended by the makers of this act, yet if such constructions

should hereafter be made of those words, it may endanger liberty of conscience in that province and restrain all Dissenters from frequenting any public places of Divine Worship for the service of God otherwise than according to the usage of the Church of England, and therefore I humbly submit it to your Lordship's consideration, Whether this Clause should not be so far explained that it may not be liable to any objection of taking from Dissenters Liberty of Conscience. As to the rest of the said Laws, I find nothing therein contained [contrary] to Law or prejudicial to His Majesty's prerogative.

All which is humbly submitted to your Lordship's great wisdom.

McTREVOR.

An Act for the Service of Almighty God, and Establishment of Religion in this Province, according to the Church of England.

Forasmuch as in a well grounded Christian Commonwealth, matters concerning Religion and the honour of God, ought in the first place to be Endeavored, and taken into Consideration, as that which is not only most acceptable to God, but the best way and means to Obtain His Mercy and Blessing upon a People or Country; Be it therefore enacted by the King's most Excellent Majesty, by & with the Advice and Consent of this present General Assembly, and the authority of the same, That *all things that have been heretofore Legally done by Virtue of former Acts of this Province, for this purpose made, and bearing this title, or tending thereto, in and since the year 1692, be and are hereby Ratified and confirmed*, according to the reasonable Intent & direction of the said Laws; to the intent that the further proceedings on so great and good a Work may be advanc'd and perfected by this Law, to which purpose; Be it enacted by the Authority aforesaid, that *the Book of Common Prayer, and Administration of the Sacraments, with other Rites and Ceremonies of the Church, according to the use of the Church of England, the Psalter and Psalms of David, and Morning and Evening Prayer therein contained, be Solemnly Read, and by all and every Minister or Reader in every Church, or*

OTHER PLACE OF PUBLIC WORSHIP, *within this Province*; and whereas y^e present Constitution of this Province being in its Infancy, will not admit of raising a Maintinance by way of Tithes as in England; Be it Enacted by the Authority aforesaid, that for Encouragm^t of faithful and able ministers, Labouring in the Work of the Gospel, to come and Reside in this Province, instead of such Tythes usually in England as aforesaid, a Tax or assessm^t of 40 pounds of Tobacco per Poll, be yearly and every year Successively levied upon every Taxable person, within each respective parish within this Province, as they have been, now are, or hereafter shall be Laid out, Limited & appointed by Law of this Province, and entred upon Record, as the said former Laws therein did direct, which said assessment of 40 pounds of Tobacco ꝑ poll shal always be paid and allowed to the Minister of each respective Parish, having no other Benefice to Officiate in, Presented, Inducted, or Appointed by His Excellency the Governor of this Province, *or other Person thereunto Legally authorized*, in manner hereinafter Expressed and Ordain'd; and every such Minister is hereby required and enjoyn'd to appoint and constantly to keep a Clerk of such Parish Church, and to pay and Satisfye such Clerk the sum of one thousand pounds of Tobacco yearly, and every year, out of the said 40 ꝑ poll; and to prevent all Illegal and unlawful marriages, not allowable by the Church of England, but forbidden by the Table of Marriages; Be it enacted by the authority aforesaid, that no minister, Priest or Magistrate, shal presume to joine in Marriage any persons whatsoever, contrary to the Table of Marriages, by this Act appointed to be sett up in every parish Church within this Province, nor shal any Persons forbidden to marry together by such Table of Marriages, presume to be joined in Marriage under the Penalties following; That is to Say, under the Penalty of five thousand p^{ds} of Tobacco upon the Minister, Priest, or Magistrate joining such Persons in marriage, and under the like penalty of five thousand pounds of Tobacco upon the Persons so joynd in Marriage, to Our Sovereign Lord the King, for the uses in this Act hereafter mentioned; and to prevent any Lay persons from Joyning any persons in Marriage, where a Minister or Priest can be had, and to ascertain what shal be paid for Marriages; be it likewise Enacted by the authority aforesaid, that in every Parish where any Minister or Incumbent shal reside, or have charge of Souls therein, no Justice or Magistrate shal join any Person in Marriage, under the Penalty of five thousand pounds of Tobacco for such offence, to our Sovereign Lord the King as afore-

said ; And that it shal be Lawful to every Minister to take and receive, of every Person or Persons by him marryed, the sum of five Shillings Sterling, and no more, any Law to the contrary notwithstanding ; provided such Persons come to such Parish Church or Chappel at the time of Divine Service, for *contracting such marriage*. And for the better and more effectual Collecting the said Duty of forty pounds of Tobacco ꝑ poll, and paying the same to the uses by this Law Intended and appointed, as also for Incorporating a Political Body, capable in Law to recover and receive all rights and perquisites accruing or growing due in Law or Conscience, to any Parish Church or Churches for any pious use or uses whatsoever: Be it Enacted that the Sherrif of each several County shal, & is hereby obliged to Collect and gather the said assessm^t of 40 per poll of the several Persons within each respective Parish in his County, in the same manner, and by the same authority, as the Public and County Leavy is Collected, and shal pay the same 40 pounds ꝑ pole to *the Vestry of each respective Parish, by this Act constituted and Incorporated a Body Politic*. If there be no Incumbent or Minister Inducted, Instituted or appointed, but in every such Parish where there is such Minister or Incumbent, who shal be legally Invested with the said Duty of 40 p^r Poll, the same shal be always paid to the said Minister or Incumbent, by Order of the Vestry as the same shal arise and grow due, after such Minister or Incumbent's Legall Qualification as aforesaid, each Sherriffe deducting for his Salary five pounds of Tobacco per Hundred, and no more, any Usage or Custom to the contrary notwithstanding. And the better to enable y^e Several Vestrymen, by former Laws and by this appointed and confirmed, to Execute the Trust and Authoritys reposed in them: Be it further Enacted by the Authority aforesaid, by and with the Advice and Consent aforesaid ; That the several Vestrymen of the several Parishes within this Province, that now are or hereafter shal be chosen and Elected, as they have been so they shal be and Continue, and are hereby confirmed and *Constituted a Body Corporate*, and so to remain and be by Succession in all times to come, to the uses and purposes following ; that is to say, for the receiving the said 40 pounds of Tobacco per poll, and the applying and disposing the same, as by this Act is Ordained ; And the said Vestrymen are hereby impowered & Enabled, by the names of the Principal Vestryman and his Brethren Vestrymen of such Parish, to recover, take and Receive into their Custody and Possession, to be disposed of in Pious uses for the Benefit of the *Church* and Parish ; any

Lands, Tenements, Hereditaments, or any Estate in any Lands or Tenements of what Nature or kind soever, or any manner of Goods, Chattels, Debts, Credits, or other Personal Estate, of what nature or kind soever, and by what manner of way soever Given, Granted, Bequeathed, or bestowed, either by Deed, Gift, Promise, or Grant of the Donor or Donors in Life, or by any last Will and Testament, or any other Honest and Lawful ways or means whatsoever; which said Vestries or Bodies Corporate, are confirmed and hereby made capable of Suing and being Sued, by the Names and Titles aforesaid, of, for, and touching any the premisses; of which Vestry or Body Corporate, the number shal always be Six, at least, except upon Death or Absence of any one of them, and in such case of Death or Absence, or other Legal incapacity of serving, the remaining part of such Vestry shal with all convenient speed meet, and by Majority of Voices Elect & choose one or more Sober & discreet Person or Persons, freeholders of each respective Parish, to supply such Absence or Defect; and such Persons so Elected and chosen, after taking the usual Oath appointed by Act of Parliament, instead of the Oaths of Allegiance and Supremacy, and the Oath of a Vestryman appointed by this Act (that is to say): "I do Solemnly Swear and declare, that I will Justly and truly Execute the trust and Office of a Vestryman of this Parish, according to my best Skill and knowledge, without prejudice, favour, or Affection, but with equal right to all persons, for the Benefit of this Church and Parish, and I will not Deminish or Detain from any Minister Legally Qualified, and Presented, Inducted, or appointed by His Excellency the Gove^r, or other Person Legally Authorized thereto, any right, Perquisite, or Benefit given by Law, So help me God;" and Subscribing the Test and Association, shal be deemed and taken, as one of the Vestry to all Intents and Purposes; and if any Person so chosen Vestryman, shal refuse to serve and take the Oaths aforesaid, he shal be fined one thousand pounds of Tobacco to his Majesty as aforesaid, and the same Method shal always be observed, to perpetuate the Succession of the Vestry in all time to come, provided always that in every Parish where any Minister or Incumbent is or shal be Instituted, inducted, appointed, and Invested with the 40^{lb} P Pole, and residing therein; he shal, during his continuance aforesaid, and no longer, be one of the Vestry of such Parish, and Principal of such Vestry, altho' there be the number of Six Persons before; and for keeping a fair Register of all such Vestries' proceedings, and for Registring of all Births, Marriages, and Burials in each

respective Parish ; Be it enacted by the Authority, Advice, and consent aforesaid, That each Vestry shal, and is hereby obliged, to appoint and keep a fitt person for a Register, who shal at all times keep a fair Register of the Vestry proceedings, in Executing their Trust and Authority ; which Register shal also take the Oaths aforesaid, and also an Oath given him by the said Vestry, for the due and Lawful Executing his said Office, and shal make true Entry of all Vestry proceedings, and of all Births, Marriages, and Burials (Negroes and Mallattos excepted), That is to say, the Christian and Sirname, with the day, month, and year of every such Birth, Marriage, or Burial ; to which purpose all and every the Inhabitants of each Parish, that are either parents, Guardians, or Overseers, Masters or Mistresses of any Persons, born, Married, or Buried, are hereby enjoyn'd and required, to give notice to the Register of such Parish, within 2 Months after such Birth, Marriage, or Burial, and pay him sixpence for entring it at the time of giving Notice aforesaid, under penalty of one hund^d pounds of Tobacco to such Inhabitant aforesaid neglecting as aforesaid, and under the Penalty of one hundred pounds of Tobacco to such Register refusing or Neglecting to enter it, having received his Fee for the Same ; and such Register is likewise hereby obliged to shew any person or persons reasonably desiring it, any such Register, or give a certificate of any Register of Births, Marriages, or Burials, that shal be reasonably required of him, and shal have for his Fees from such persons. Sixpence for any search, and Sixpence for any Copy or certificate given as aforesaid, and no more ; hereby ratifying and confirming as valid all Registers or Entries of any Births, Mariages, or Burials, heretofore made with any Clerk of any County Court, according to directions of such Laws, as was then in Force, before any of these Laws were in being ; and that the Register of each Parish may be enabled to perform the Charge hereby required of him, Be it enacted by the authority, advice, and consent aforesaid, that if there be any Vestries of any Parishes that have not already provided good and Substantial writing Books, well Bound, sufficient for Registring such proceedings in, according to the Directions of the former Laws ; that in every such Case of such Neglect or Omission, the Vestry of such Parish shal, at the Parish charge, provide such Book or Books, within Six Months from the end of this Session of Assembly, under the penalty of 500 pounds of Tobacco each Vestryman (the Minister only excepted) neglecting as aforesaid, to Our Sovereign Lord the King, for the uses herein mentioned ; and that there may

be no neglect in the Vestrys, or those Employed under them, in y^e careful and Conscionable performance of their Sev^l Charges in this Law contained, the said Several Vestrys are hereby *Obliged to meet* frequently, or as often as need shall require, *upon notice given by the Principal Vestryman* of each Parish, to consult of the Methods and ways of performing the several authorities reposed in them: and from which Vestries so appointed no Vestryman, without Lawful Impedim^t, shall absent himself, *under the Penalty of one hundred pounds of Tobacco* to each Vestryman wilfully neglecting to appear as aforesaid, and under the Same Penalty to such Principal Vestryman who shall not appoint such Vestry, to meet when need shall require, such Omissions and Neglects to be noted in the Vestry's Register of proceedings, and recovered in his Majestie's Name, & the said Several and respective Vestrys are hereby further enjoined, that where there is not a Table of Mariages already put up in their Respective Parish Churches, withal convenient speed, and within 6 Months at the most, to procure a fair Table of Mariages Transcribed and Sett up in their respective Churches, and the Same Keep continually in the said Church, that persons being thereby informed what Mariages are forbidden, may avoid the Contracting any such unlawful Mariages; and that the said *Vestrymen* do once every year, in or about the Month of Janu^y yearly, *make choice and appoint two Sober and discreet freeholders of their Respective Parishes to be Church Wardens* for that year, upon Penalty of 200 Pounds of Tobacco each Vestryman (except before Excepted), neglecting, either in the Table of Mariages, or appointing Church Wardens, to Our Sovereign Lord the King as aforesaid, which Church Wardens so chosen shall take *the usual Oaths*, and likewise declare upon his Oath given by the Vestry, well and faithfully to execute that Office the ensuing year, according to the best of his knowledge; and any such Person or Persons so chosen Church Warden or Wardens, that shall wilfully *refuse to serve in the said Office, and take the Oaths aforesaid, shall be fined* one thousand pounds of Tobacco, to Our Sovereign Lord the King; and the Church Wardens and Vestry are Authorized and required to take constant care to Satisfye and pay the Parochial Charges, and of all Necessary repairs and Amendments of their Respective Churches, Chappels, or Churchyards, and cause the same att all times to be repaired and Amended, as need shall require, and Satisfye & pay for the Same, either out of the 40 p Poll, where no Minister is appointed, or out of such other Gifts, Grants, goods,

Chattels, or Credits, as shal come to their hands, for the Church or parish use, if there be any Minister Instituted therein, but if it should so happen that there should be a Minister Legally instituted therein, and the Vestry have not any Effects in their hands besides the 40 p Poll to pay Parochial Charges as aforesaid, or to make such necessary repairs as is required, then and not otherwise, it shal be lawful to the Justices of the County Courts, upon application of such Parish Vestry and Church Wardens, to assess the respective Parishes by a certain sum of Tobacco, not exceeding ten pounds of Tobacco by the Poll in any one year; which assessment, made by such County Court, and a Certificate thereof, under the County Seal, shal be Sufficient to the Sheriff of such County, to Leavy such Tax by the Poll, on the Taxables of such Parishes, in the same manner as other public dues are levied, and shal not Deduct above five p hundred for his Salary, and pay the Same to such Vestry for the use aforesaid. And to the intent that this Act may answer the end of the Makers, which is, That His Majestie's good Subjects of this Province may be instructed in Religion, and therein of their Duty to God, His Majesty, and themselves, and those Pious and Exemplary Persons that shal Labour therein Suitably provided for; Be it enacted by the authority, advice, and Consent aforesaid, that no Minister or Incumbent shal at one time hold more than two Parishes, nor two Parishes but by the Desire and Agreement of the Vestry of the said Adjacent Parish, and the consent of the Vestry where he Resides, and the appointm^t of His Excellency the Governor, *or other Person Legally authorized* thereunto, for the time being; nor claim other or larger part of the 40 p poll, than what such adjacent Parish shal consent and agree with him yearly to pay, and it is the true Intent and meaning of this Act, that what sum or sums of Mony, Tobacco, Goods, Chattels, or any other Interest except Lands, given to the use of the Church, and the 40 p poll that shal come into the Vestry's hands, *by any means whatsoever as aforesaid, shal always be employed, in the first place, to repairing the Church or Chappel*, and what appertains to it; and providing Decent Ornaments and Requisites for the same, and *other Parochial Charges*; And, in the next place, for and towards the Educating and Instructing poor Orphans of the Parish y^e are not able to procure Instruction to themselves; and if anything remains over and beyond what will answer those occasions, to such other Pious and Charitable uses as the Vestry and Church Wardens of such Parish shal find most requisite in their Discretion; and that the

Several Vestrymen of each respective Parish may not be discouraged to look after anything, that by any means as aforesaid becomes the Parish right and due; Be it Enacted by the authority, advice, and Consent aforesaid, that in any Action by them commenced in the name of a Vestry and for the Benefit of the Parishes aforesaid, *they shal not be Obliged to pay any Fees or Cost of Suit, to any Person or Officer, unless they recover in the same Action, nor pay the Defendant any Cost, in Case the Vestry shal not recover, or be cast on such Tryal, and that the Major part of the Members of every Vestry shal be construed the Vestry, capable to proceed in any manner; and that where there are not or shal not be ministers in any parish, it shal and may be lawful to the Vestry to provide some Sober and discreet Person as a Reader, and agree with him for such Service per year, or otherwise for less time, and allow him his payment out of the 40 per poll, what part thereof they shal agree for, not exceeding the one half yearly of such Revenue; and upon such reader's taking the said Oaths appointed by Act of Parliament, Subscribing the Test and Association, and procuring Lycence from his Excellency the Governor, or other Person thereunto Authorized, shal and may read Divine Service, Homily, and other good authors of practical Divinity, at the usual times in such Church or Chapel, and therein shal Demean himself according to the Liturgy of the Church of England, as aforesaid.*

Lastly, it is Ordain'd and Enacted by the authority, Advice, and Consent aforesaid, that the several Fines and Forfeitures that shal happen by the Tenor of this Act, shal be recovered by Action of Debt in his Majestie's Name, His Heirs or Successors, and applyed to the use of the Parish, and in such manner as before directed in this Act; And that one act made at a General Assembly begun and held at the City of St. Mary's, the 10th day of May, 1692, Intituled an Act for the Service of Almighty God, &c.; One other Act made at a Sessions of Assembly, begun and held at the Port of Annapolis, the Eighth day of May, 1695, Intituled an Additional Act to the Act of Religion; one other Act made at a Session of Assembly, begun and held at the Port of Annapolis, the 9th Day of July, 1696, Intituled an Act for the Service of Almighty God, &c.; and one other Act, made at a Sessions of Assembly, begun and held at the Port of Annapolis, the 28th Day of June, 1699, Intituled an Act empowering the Vestrymen to assess their Parishioners for finishing and Repairing their Parish Churches, and every part of every of the said Laws be and are hereby Repealed and made Voyd.

*Observations upon the Maryland Act for the Service of
Almighty God, &c.*

PAGES 1 and 2. The Confirming of all things *Legally done* by former Acts, or Acts tending thereto, is so General as not to be well understood : And what was *Legally done* needs no Confirmation.

PAGES 2 and 3. The words, *Or other place of Public Worship*, are so General that they may be construed to extend, as well to the Places where any Dissenters from the Church of England meet together for Divine Worship after their way, as to the Public Churches in that Province.

PAGE 4. The Governor, or Commander in Chief, is the only Person appointed by his Majesty for this purpose : and no other Person ought to be in any manner *authorised* to do the same.

PAGE 7. They come not thither to *Contract*, but to Solemnize their Marriage.

PAGE 8. There is not by the Law of England any *Select Vestry*. But by immemorial usage a Vestry is a meeting of all the Parishioners to Consult of Parish Business, where every Person paying Scot and Lott hath right to Vote. Yet such General Meeting of the Parishioners is not a *Corporation* : and there is no reason for a *Select Vestry* in any Parish, but where the Inhabitants are so numerous that the meeting of them wou'd be inconvenient.

PAGE 10. *Body corporate*, as before in Page 8.

PAGE 11. The word *Church* wants explaining.

Ib : The General Power of possessing Lands in Mortmain without Limitation is not allowed in England.

PAGE 12. The word *absence* ought to be explained.

Ib : This method excludes the Inhabitants of their Rights to Vote and consent to matters concerning themselves ; and if a *Select Vestry* were to be, it is reason they shou'd be chosen by all the Inhabitants whom they are to represent.

Ib : There is none authorized to administer this Oath.

PAGE 13. This is to be understood in his public Capacity, not as a Private Person ; for so it wou'd be as an *Oath ex Officio*.

Ib : *Legally authorised*, as before in Page 4th.

PAGE 14. There ought to be no *Penalty* to enforce an Oath *ex Officio* : Neither is this Oath reasonable, because it Excludes all Quakers from the Benefits of their Solemn Affirmation which they are allowed by the Law of England.

Ib : Note, *Same Method* as before in Page 12.

PAGE 20. The minister being before [in Page 14] made *principal* of each *Vestry*, this Clause gives the Minister a Power to be vexatious; And it is contrary to His Majestie's Instructions to the Governor of Maryland [Page 274], That the Minister should be the only Person Empowered to Summon a Vestry.

PAGES 21 & 22. This Power is contrary to the Law and Practice of England. For by the Law of England the Minister chooses one *Church Warden*, and the Parishioners the other: But by Custom in some Parishes the Parishioners have the choice of both.

PAGE 22. *Quære*, What are the usual Oaths?

PAGE 23. This is contrary to the Law of England, where persons chosen Church-wardens have liberty to put in Deputies, and 'tis a breach into the Tolleration Act in England.

PAGE 27. *Legally authorised*, as before, page 4.

Id: This may be contrary to the Intention of the Donors, who have given Money or Lands with particular Limitations.

PAGE 28. What is meant by *other Parochial charges*?

PAGE 29. This is contrary to Law, and unreasonable; for, thereby the Vestry will be encouraged to be Vexatious. [Pa: 30 & 31. *Reader*. Q: How is this to be executed?]

PAGE 30. *Authorised*, as before, page 4.

PAGES 31 and 32. *Note*, that the Act past the 10th of May, 1692, was disallow'd by His Majesty the 4th of January, 1695. And an other Act made the 9th of July, 1696, was disapproved by His Majesty the 30th of November, 1699, and therefore ought not to have been repealed by this Act, as if his Majestie's disallowance of them had not been Sufficient.

Note, also, It is an Instruction to Governors not to re-enact Laws disapproved by the King, because by that means they defeat His Majestie's Intent in such disallowance, and at the rebound attain their own ends: Thus it has happened in this very Case, where this Act has for above 8 years been constantly put in Execution, tho' it has been as constantly disallowed: And it is computed that in this manner there has been above 30,000 pounds levied upon it which ought not to have been.

Upon the whole:

Note, That by an Act Entituled An Act concerning Religion, passed by the Lord Proprietor of Maryland, the 6th of August, 1650, It is provided that *no person professing to believe in Jesus Christ shall be troubled or Molested For or in respect of His Religion, or the free Exercise thereof* (some Persons for Blasphemy and the like excepted), upon which Liberty the Planters have been greatly encouraged to Settle and Improve that Country; And Several of them Complain that this Act is Directly contrary to that other, which they account One of their most Fundamental, and was their first Law.

Dr. Bray's Memorial, shewing the Necessity of one to superintend the Church and Clergy in Maryland, with a Proposal relating to his Support, and an account also how far the latter is advanced.

The Province of Maryland, since the Government thereof has been vested in the Crown, having very much increased in its Inhabitants, and the Clergy thereof also being become, since Parishes have been set out, and Churches built & endow'd, considerable in Number, And there being withall so many Popish Priests therein, who are watchful in taking all advantages through their misbehaviour or neglect (should any thing of that nature happen) to pervert the People: It becomes now highly necessary that some one should be appointed to Preside over them, and under such a character as shall be thought proper, and with such support as may the better enable him to have some Authority amongst them, & frequently to visit them & all the Parts of the Province.

The Province itself is greatly desirous of having a Person under such character amongst them, and towards his support hath done what in them lay, to have the Judicial Office of Commissary, which has the Cognizance of Testamentary Causes, annexed to that of the Lord Bishop of London; which Judicial Office, as they conceive it, will be best vested in some Ecclesiastical person, and so it would go a great way towards raising a support for one to exercise Jurisdiction over the Church and Clergy. But that favour is not yet obtained from the Crown; however, upon due application it is humbly promis'd it will be easily granted, & with the full profits will be worth £300 p^a Ann.

If this should be granted to compleat the encouragement, it would be so requisite to Induce a Person of desert to leave his Native Country & go so far, but more especially to enable him to do good in a Station where no mean things will be expected from him, & in which, should he be wanting, little good can be done by him, & where his business withall will be found of a vast extent; To compleat, I say, a due encouragement for one in that Station, it will be farther requisite that a Seat or Plantation should be provided for him, so stock'd as to give a considerable addition to his income amongst them.

It is computed that 500 Acres of good land, with 20 Negroes, and a Stock of Cattle Settled upon it, may raise yearly, in Tobacco and other Commodities, to the value of 300 p^{d} Ann., w^{ch} 500 Acres will cost 500, the Negroes also and Stock, 600, & Tobacco houses, and such like buildings, 100 more. The whole, 1500.

It is not to be expected the Country of itself should make this provision, the Inhabitants having already been at considerable charges in building their Churches, besides the yearly paym^t allotted to the Parochial Ministers. Nor will they be permitted to pursue their good inclinations to make such provisions for some one to provide over the Clergy, the Quakers' opposition to the Settlement of a Church in that Province being so great that they are scarce able to preserve the Parochial Ministers amongst them, and the maintenance they have settled by Law upon them.

Upon all the foregoing considerations, It is humbly propos'd to such hon^{ble} & worthy persons as are Zealous for God's Glory, and the prosperity and welfare of the Church of England, to subscribe amongst them the fore-mentioned Sum, to be laid out to the purpose aforesaid.

N. This proposal has met with such encouragement that some subscriptions have been already made towards the design, & others are promised if it goes on ; and upon confidence thereof my Lord Baltimore has been treated with for 500 Acres of land, lying in his best Manor in Arundel County, in Maryland, & £500, the purchase money for the same, is, according to the Articles agreed upon betwixt his Lordship and myself, with the approbation of my Lord Bishop of London, to be paid to the Lord Baltimore forthwith, after the return of the Survey from Maryland, which is come by the last Shipping. By letters lately rec'd I am informed that y^e purchase is look'd upon in Maryland to be so good a one as to be worth one hundred pounds more than is to be given for the same.

Mem^o.

The Amount of Subscriptions annexed by D^r. Bray to this Memorial is Three hundred & Fifty Seven pounds Ten Shil^ls.

Rev. M^r. NICOLS to M^r. STUBS.

CHESTER IN PENNSYLVANIA, 20 March, 1703.

REV^d SIR,

I lay hold on the first opportunity (as I know myself in duty bound) of notifying to you my arrival to this country. Wee had a tedious voyage, & so dangerous too, that, altho' by God's protection wee and most of the Fleet are safely arrived, yet the Commodore, which was the biggest Fourth rate ship in England, & had on board it a great many passengers, particularly Col^l Seymour, who is sent by her Majesty to be Governour of Maryland, in the Room of Col^l Blackston, was forced to bear away to the W. Indies. Here I mett with M^r. Keith, toiling and Labouring with the Quakers. I find what was reported of him in England to be very true (viz.), that he has brought a great many over to the Church, & truly I rejoiced to see such a number of sincere and good Christians as I found in Philadelphia, who are certainly so if good moralls be any indication of their Faith. They are no ways inclined to any other communion than that of the Church of England, in which they have approved themselves sound members by a constant attendance att the times of prayer, a grave and serious attention to their minister's instructions, their willingness in bringing their children to be catechised, & their own frequent participation of the Lord's Supper. It is a great happiness (considering the Loud clamours that are raised against the American clergy) that, in this town above all others, there is such a one as has acquitted himself a faithfull & well qualify'd minister, in spite of the nicest scrutiny that a bad cause & malice could make to defraud him. I mean one M^r. Evan Evans, formerly of Brasen Nose College; he is a credit both to his Church and country, which thing gives me occasion to represent to you how treacherous our own countrymen have been in deserting their Mother Church. They have the character of a most industrious people, and it is supposed that their simplicity suffered them to be led away. We nevertheless do not despair of reducing them, because they themselves confess that it was for a minister which made them go any where to hear the Word of God, and thereby were quickly seduced. We have appointed a meeting with them about 5 miles off this place, where M^r. Keith is to deliver his persuasions to them before his departure, which M^r. Evans will interpret to as many as do not understand him. It is

my hard hap to be surrounded with them. I lament my unskilfullness in the language, and only fear that I cannot persuade them to be so patient as to bear till I can be master of so much that I may express myself to them indifferently; for preaching is here looked upon to be the most necessary part of Divine Service, and though I can read the prayers in Welsh, yet I find I shall not profit unless I can speak also from the pulpit in the same tongue. I see a great deal of pains and trouble before me, & am so placed that the eyes of all are upon me to watch every failing, if so be they can catch hold of Infirmities. As to passion and anger, to provoke w^{ch} is the constant endeavours of the Quakers, or else to immorality, they will be sure to expose it with advantage. I trust that God will strengthen me, both to look to myself, and also in my endeavours to instruct others in the knowledge of the Christian religion. I humbly beg the benefit of your prayers & counsle, & any other assistances which you can contribute to repair those deficiencies which I confess, and you are very sensible I labor under. Our new Gov^r is very much approved as yet. He has a Difficult work on't. Quakers and Churchmen hope that each of them have the best Interest in him. It is impossible to please both; he cannot well trim. He has given me all the assurances of his Favor that I could expect; but we cannot prove his affections till once he begins to constitute magistrates, w^{ch} he has defer'd to do, till further advice from England.

M^r. Keith has a letter of thanks from the Parishioners of note in this county to the Honorable Society for their generous contribution towards my supply, & because, Dear Sir, I have sufficiently experienced your goodness, I dare open my whole concern & fear, & that is this: I mett with one M^r. Sharp of Maryland, one who has been sent about 3 years since. He told me that D^r. Bray was his Friend, and provided a support for him from that Honorable Body, but it seems it was his ill fortune to quarrell with D^r. Bray, since w^{ch} time he has never received one penny but the first £50. He has left Maryland, and thinks to settle in this province, or else in Burlington, in E. Jersey. It is a miserable thing if we, that are so remote, stand precarious to one member's Displeasure. I could relate to you the most surprising storyes that I have had too sure occasion to believe concerning D^r. Bray, of his deportment towards the principall benefactor our Church has in this Country, Col^l Nicholson, Gov^r of Virginia. You have undoubtedly heard enough already, but you must expect to hear a great deal more.

Dr. BRAY to the Secretary.

SHELDON, March 24th, 1705.

SIR,

I rec^d yours of the 17th instant, together with the Minutes of the Society, wherein I find it is expected from me to give the reason why £50, being the last payment due to M^r. Tibbs, a Missionary in Maryland, should not fall upon me to make good, but rather (with all submission I speak it), upon the Venerable Society. In order to give the full and clear satisfaction in which that you desire, I must proceed to inform you as follows :

First, that in my great struggle with the Quakers in Maryland, when I was Soliciting the Members of Assembly to Re-enact the Law for the Establishment of that Church, after that the Quakers had obtained an Order of Council at home to annul it, I was answered by several of the Members that the Establishment of their Church would signify nothing to them, since their Parishes turning out but little Tobacco, no Ministers would come to 'em. And therefore, to make such persons Friends to the Bill, was for it to promise them that I would make it as my first Care to have their parishes supply'd, so to have some support for them made from England, And I have all the reason in the world to believe it was a necessary promise, and that it had its share in producing the great Effect, the Re-enacting of that Law which, by the by, I crave leave to suggest was no easy matter to obtain, considering not only the joint Interest made by the Roman Catholics ag^t it, but that it is contrary to the R. Instructions to pass any Bill to w^{ch} the R. Assent had been before refused, and this had twice before undergone that fate.

Secondly, I am next to remark that, after my return from Maryland, finding the Law which I brought over for the Establishment of that Church could not be approved here, as then formed, through the Reiterated opposition of the Quakers, and that we must again depend upon the Good humour of the Maryland Assembly to have another pass^d according to the Instructions sent from hence, I found it necessary to obviate any others obstructing the Bill I was sending home to be pass^d in their next Assembly, to send in together wth it as many Missionarys as possible, according to the desire of several parishes, and some of them to be supported with Allowance from

home. This, that I might be as good as my promise to them. Now especial that we were again to depend upon them, and that we had reason to fear this last Effort of the Quakers would not be the least.

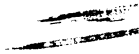
Thirdly, the Missionaries I sent on that occasion, together with the New Bill, were in all six, Three whereof, and M^r. Tibbs, one of them with allowance from hence, w^{ch} tho' I had not actually Subscribed to me for all of them at that time, yet had good reason to expect 'twould soon be made good, from the good relish I found my memorial relating to Missionarys to have with a great many persons.

Fourthly, in no long time after their Departure I must confess sufficient Subscriptions were made to Support my Missions. But when I had sued out the Charter, several of the Subscriptions made to me were paid into the Corporation, amongst w^{ch} that of his Grace of Canterbury for one. And also those promised from M^r. Vaughan of Cardiganshire, if I mistake not the County, for I have not all my Papers by me. By w^{ch}, and the non-payment of several who had promised, the Stock w^{ch} I had being much more than Exhausted, I am sadly out of Pocket. But my Comfort is, I have persons of character for the greatest honour and Religion, upon whose Equity I am to depend. And to that I refer the present Case.

I am, Sir,

Your obedient servant, &c.,

THO^s BRAY.



A Memorial, giving a true and Just account of the affair of the Commissary of Maryland, with respect to which the New Governor, Col^d SEYMOUR, has made so great Complaints of his ill usage by me. And on that occasion has taken the liberty to traduce me, not only amongst his own acquaintance, merchants, and others; but, both by word and writing, to my own best friends in Town & Country, and continues still to pursue me with an unaccountable outrage.

I. Soon after my return from Maryland, which was in the month of Aug^t, 1700, I represented to my Lord of London the great necessity there would be that his Lordship should forthwith send a Commissary to preside over the Clergy of that province, if it were but to prevent their falling into any disorders, which may be very fatal in Maryland, especially because of the great number of Popish Priests, & the virulency of the Quakers there, who so narrowly watch our Missionaries' Haltings, & are so against, not only to aggravate their miscarriages, but to make the worst uses of them. And his Lordship was easily persuaded of such necessity, could the design be rendered practicable; only he was not willing I should wholly quit my relation to that Church; and that therefore some one should rather be deputed by me than go with a commission immediately from his Lordship.

II. That which seemed to render the design impracticable, either of sending of a commissary with full power, or a surrogate under him, was the total want of means to support one with either character. The Governor and Assembly of Maryland had, indeed, in the years '94 & '95, after they had set out Parishes, and established a maintenance for Parochial Ministers; they did also, I say, with great alacrity take proper measures, as they thought, to support one to preside over them. And to that purpose they passed an Act, vesting the office of Judge in Testamentary causes, upon such Ecclesiastical Person as the said L^d Bishop of London for the time being should commis-

sionate under him. Upon which that office, computed at £300 per annum, was proposed to me, and upon that encouragement I undertook the charge ; but, to my no less surprise than loss, when I went to Maryland to enjoy it, I found myself disappointed by an Intrigue, equally mysterious as the annulling the Law for the Establishment of Parochial Clergy, so that no benefit is like to come to any Churchman by that office, tho' the Country, I am sure, did very much desire it, as supposing the administration of Justice from a clergyman would redound to their own benefit, in a Court upon whose Justice does depend the Estates of all the orphans and widows of that country.

III. Despairing, therefore, of any means that could be thought of at present to support a Commissary, In the year 1701 I sent a Deputation to three of the gravest and prudentest Divines I knew in Maryland, empowering them to hold visitations, and to see the execution of those good resolutions which, I bless God, I had brought all the Clergy into at my own visitation. But they, whether that they found that their Brethren on the same level with themselves would not easily submit to anything like superiority in them, or from other reasons, never thought fit to act, as I can learn.

IV. Notwithstanding this and many other discouragements, being animated with a more than ordinary Zeal for the good and prosperity of that Church and Province particularly, I projected a way to have the Commissary, or who-soever should be sent to preside over the Clergy there, supported by having a plantation bought and stocked, so as to raise him a sufficient maintenance. But tho' I had proceeded in that a considerable way, and that to my own very great expence, both of time and money, yet meeting with many difficulties therein, I was forced to drop that design also ; as also another which I had again laid for the same purpose, which was to bring in a Bill in Parliament, by virtue whereof sufficient Provision can be made even for a Bishop Suffragan, if the superior powers shall please to send such, and that without a farthing charge to either Prince or People.

V. In the year 1701-2 I received an account from Maryland that one Holt, a scandalous and enormous wretch, who had been lately deprived of his Living in Virginia by Mr. Blair, because of his Adulterys, Drunkenness, and fightings, was come into Maryland & placed in one of the best Parishes, and in possession of the second Library in the Province. Upon which advice I did again lay before my Lord of London the most pressing necessity there was of sending a Commissary there, and that he should have the Power of Induction

vested in him, the right of Presentation remaining in the Governor. Such check, I represented, in the Commissary, would be some security to the Church, in keeping out wicked men, whereas, when once in possession, it would be difficult to remove them. His Lordship was very desirous to have a Commissary sent, and ordered me to enquire out a proper person, & also to consider whether there were any thing in the Crown unappropriated in that Province, which he might ask of the Queen for his support. But I could not inform myself of any thing of that kind to be asked, the penny p pound on the side trade being already granted for the Endowment of the College of Virginia. But,

VI. As to a person every way qualified to be his Lordship's Commissary, I did at length meet with one; and it was the Rev^d M^r. Michael Huitson, Arch Deacon of Armagh in Ireland, a person of as clear a character from others as ever I met with, and, to my own knowledge, of excellent piety and exemplary Life, of a prudent conduct and grave deportment. This person, out of pure Zeal to the work of propagating the Gospel in Foreign parts, was very willing to bestow himself upon that service, & I proposed him to my Lord of London, who, when he was satisfied of his Qualifications as aforesaid, did readily accept him; and it remained only to find out how to support him. And there being no other way that could be thought of, his Lordship proposed to present him to the Gov^r, and to desire him that, since the office of Judge in Testamentary Causes is an office of an Ecclesiastical nature; an office that the Country have desired might be vested in an Ecclesiastical person, & more particularly in the Bishop of London's Commissary for his support; and since it is an office that He, the Governor, could not execute himself, being that appeals lie from that Court to himself, as Chancellor, or at leastwise to himself in Council; an office, too, that must be bestowed on some one, his Lordship did therefore intend to propose it to the Governor to give him his Commission to be Judge in Testamentary Causes.

VII. His Lordship, being thus resolved, ordered me to bring M^r. Huitson on a certain day to dine with him, and Col^l Seymour having, about the same time, desired me to let him know when I should next dine at Fulham, and he would go along with me, I did accordingly acquaint him on what Day I was to dine with my Lord, thinking it might be most proper for my Lord to propose the matter to the Gov^r, when he should see the person he designed

for his Commissary (The very Gravity of the Gentleman being such as might in a great measure recommend him), and that it would be proper by that means to bring them first acquainted; and, to let the Gov^r have the greater freedom to make an objection. M^r. Huitson and myself immediately after dinner withdrew, leaving the Governor with a friend of his and my Lord alone.

VIII. M^r. Huitson and myself being withdrawn, my Lord, it seems, did take that opportunity to let Gov^r Seymour know that he designed to make the person that came along with him and me, to be his Commissary, and that he hoped he would be agreeable to him. And, I suppose, did also desire that he might have his Commission to be Judge in Testamentary Causes, as a means for his support. I know not in what manner the Governor received the motion from my Lord, but scarce was he parted from him, and we entered into the Coach, but he fell upon me with the greatest fury, and on M^r. Huitson with as great Indignity.

IX. The Reproaches he has been pleased to load me with, all upon that occasion, both in the Coach and since, are: 1st. That I did not acquaint him in the first place of the person, and of the design to have him made the Commissary. 2nd. He said the Bishop of London spake of the person to him as one that he supposed him, the Gov^r, to have been acquainted with before, and of the design to have him the Commissary. 3rd. That this, therefore, was a trick, a cheat of mine, and such an Indignity, Injury, & what not, that did not I wear a Gown he would have satisfaction of me with his sword. I will make my defence as to each particular of this high charge, forsooth, and will then offer something at the Reasons, and to open the mystery why such resentment is to be expressed upon this matter.

And, in the first article, that I did not acquaint his Excellency in the first place, both of the person and the design to have this M^r. Arch Deacon made the Commissary, I answer, first: that I did then, and still do think it had been very preposterous for me to have presented him to the Governor before the Bishop of London, the Commissary being the Bishop's officer, and to take his commission from his Lordship. But, 2^{ndly}, I have a better reason than that, and it was therefore that I thought it not fit for me to acquaint his Excellency with the matter, but leave it to my Lord to do it, because I knew even my Lord's authority would be little enough to carry a point so resolved against; and that my small interest in him would be 10 times too little.

But, secondly, he says that my Lord of London spake of the person to him as of one that he supposed him, the Gov^r, to have been acquainted with all before, and of the design to have him the Commissary. This he insisted upon much in the Coach, and as to this I then answered (and the Gentleman in the Coach with him, who was his friend, thought it satisfactory, and would therewith have appeased him), I told him that it was very likely that my Lord might be induced to suppose some such acquaintance, because his Lordship did know we came in as one company, and saw us all together. And now,

Thirdly, he says this was a trick, a cheat of mine, and such an Injury, Vilany, and what not, that did I not wear a Gown, he would have satisfaction of me with his sword. It is well that we have such an asylum as the Gown; or rather, it is well for some, that upon that score they may so safely Bounce, & hector, and menace a certain Order of men as they please, without danger of return; which, if Chevaliers as well as themselves, I believe they would be more cautious of that sort of treatment. But to the business of Trick and Cheat,

If it be a trick and cheat to recommend a Commissary to him that is to give him the Commission, or a trick and cheat to take all the honest and wise precautions to have a point carried, on which I think the greatest good to a whole Church and country does depend, and to attain which I have so long endeavoured, and by various means, as appears by the aforesaid narrative; If this, I say, be a Trick & Cheat, I shall readily own the Imputation. But if he means by a cheat any Interest I have proposed to myself in getting M^r. Archdeacon Huitson made Commissary of Maryland, I can with all sincerity assure him the cheat would have been only put upon myself and family, had it succeeded; even just such a cheat as I have been often heretofore guilty of to myself and family, I say, for the sake of that Church and province; that is, to put myself to considerable charges for their service, for truly, had M^r. Archdeacon gone, besides the considerable accession of Books that I should have presented by his hand to all their Libraries, I did design some present to himself, that would have been no small charge to me, and of great service and encouragement to him, as he himself does partly know, and I dare say will own.

And now, it may well be enquired what can be the reason of this Opposition to the having some grave Ecclesiastical person to preside over the Clergy in that Province, to regulate their manners, and to direct them to their

dutys. I profess I never gave the Governor any provocation, except what I have related can be called a Provocation, which equal Judges will, I hope, rather esteem a matter of praise in me, that I struggled so hard and so long for a public good, than of Blame: what, you will say then, can be the reason that this Gentleman should, after 2 months' railing at me whilst he remained in town, still pursue me with that revenge, as to compel and corrupt a young Divine that I had sent in the Fleet with him for Maryland, to forge a wicked Calumny against me, in order to blacken my character thereby, as he termed it, & then to labor as he did the dispersing of it? And after that the Notice of it came so providentially and timely to my knowledge, that I did immediately refute it to his own & their disappointment and confusion that were concerned in it, in so much that he thought fit to deny his compelling of Waggoner to raise the Calumny, and when the Gentleman who was his Agent did thereupon, in order to our Letter understanding, persuade me to write him a letter, wherein I owned myself satisfied upon his word as a Gentleman (tho' since, I am thoroughly satisfied that he did compel the young man to belie his conscience), what can be the reason that, at the same time he amused us with so soft a letter, he should write so bitterly, as I understand he has done, to my Lords of Canterbury and London; to such Lords also as he knew had a favor for me, even into the country; and as I have great reason to believe, wherever else, both in town and country, he thought it might be of use to do me a mischief? What can be the reason of this? I have before declared that I never gave him any provocation than what it may be supposed to be given with relation to the Commissary. That, therefore, must be the reason, and that [it] is with him a considerable reason may appear hence, that tho' he told my Lord of London he would admit any Commissary his Lordship should appoint, except that Irishman, as he reproachfully calls him, whom he said he could not endure for the sake of his country; yet he has been often, after such profession, heard to swear that there should no Commissary Come into his Government. There must be, therefore, some great mystery in this Opposition to the having some Ecclesiastical person of Probity, experience, and Gravity in his province, to preside over the Clergy there, in order to preserve them from giving scandal to the Papists & Quakers, to introduce a good discipline amongst them, to direct them in, & to keep them up to their Duty? A mystery of Godliness I am sure it is none; and since such a mystery it is, as must expose that poor Infant Church,

after so much cost and care to nurse it up hitherto, to the Rage and reproach of its bitter Enemies, I trust in God those whose concern it is will be able to disclose and defeat it, and even yet to preserve that poor Church: and with such I leave it. As for my own part, I have fought my fight; I have finished my course.

THOMAS BRAY.

Mr. ADAMS to the Bishop of London.

(EXTRACT.)

STEPNEY PARISH, SOMERSET COUNTY, MARYLAND,
2^d July, 1711.

MY LORD,

My person should have prevented my writing, if the Majus Conum Ecclesiæ had not swayed. For these four years I alone have served, as a Presbyter of the Church of England, the whole County of Somerset, consisting of four parishes, so that six Congregations are supplied by me, which obliges me to travel 200 miles per month, besides my pastoral charge in my own parish (Stepney), which has a church and chapel, and is near 30 miles in length, and some 16 or 18 miles in breadth, which possibly is a labour that few in America undergo; yet, my Lord, I can't subsist without some assistance, for Tobacco, our money, is worth nothing, and not one Shirt to be had for Tobacco this year in all our County; and poor ten shillings is all the money I have received by my Ministry and perquisites since October last.

I humbly desire your Lordship to send me in a Letter to be chaplain to some man-of-war that comes to convey the Virginia Fleet next year, and after I have got some money by being chaplain aboard to pay my Debts (which are not very considerable as yet), I assure your Lordship I am resolved to return to my Parish so soon as times amend, and I can comfortably subsist among them. I'm confident, and firmly depend upon your Lordship's extending to me your usual kindness and tenderness and care to your Clergy, which will greatly encourage

Yours, &c.,

ALEX^r ADAMS.

Mr. ADAMS to the Secretary.

(EXTRACT.)

STEPNEY PARISH IN SOMERS CO^y, MARYLAND,

2nd July, 1711.

These four years my encouragement was so scanty that I must leave the County if not supplied by the Hon'ble Society speedily. I request, Sir, to press the condition of the Church here, for it looses daily by the want of Ministering on our part, & the careful supply by Dissenting, *i. e.*, Presbyterian preachers on the other side.

Yours, &c.,

ALEX^r ADAMS.

The Case of Sir Thomas Laurence, Bart., Secretary of Her Majesty's Province of Maryland.

While the sole propriety and Government of the province of Maryland was in the Lord Baltimore, the Secretary of that Province, among other perquisites, had the Naval Officers' fees for entering and clearing of ships, which the said Lord thought fit to take to himself, & in Exchange gave to the Secretary certain fees payable by the Keepers of Ordinaries, or Public Houses of Entertainment, on their receiving Licenses for keeping such Houses. When the late King William and Queen Mary, with the consent of the Lord Baltimore, were pleased to take that Government under their immediate care and protection, their Majesties appointed Colonel Copley Governor thereof, and Sir Thomas Laurence was made Secretary, by patent bearing date the 5th day of September, in the third year of their reign, To hold that office during their Majesties' pleasure and his residence in that province, with all

rights, privileges, profits, perquisites, and advantages thereto belonging, incident, or appertaining; by which Grant the said Sir Thomas Laurence was undoubtedly entitled to the benefit of the said Ordinary Licenses.

Colonel Copley arriving in his Government before Sir Thomas Laurence, got an Act of Assembly passed, in May, 1692, whereby the benefit of the said Ordinary Licenses was granted to himself; and not contented with this injustice, laid a further hardship upon the Secretary's Office in depriving it, by his Order in Council, of all the Chancery fees to a considerable value. Sir Thomas Laurence coming to Maryland in September following, and finding how he had been abused, sent his complaints to England, and obtained an Order of Council, dated March 2, 1693, whereby the forementioned Act of Assembly and Governor Copley's Order in Council were disallowed, and it was ordered the Secretary should enjoy the full benefit of his Office, according to his patent.

The Governor, in the meantime, highly resenting that Sir Thomas Laurence should thus sue for his right, did, under feigned pretences, suspend him from the Presidentship of the Council and the Place of Chief Justice of the Provincial Court, and committed him to the custody of the Sheriff of St. Mary's County, with directions to carry him to the Sheriff of Charles County, who was to keep him safe, and not to deliver him without an order of the Council there, refusing to give the prisoner a Copy of his accusation, or to allow him his Habeas Corpus, or a trial, as he desired, before the Provincial Court. This being also complained of, another Order of Council in England was granted in Sir Thomas Laurence his behalf, whereby the Governor was commanded to set him at liberty, and restore him to all his Offices before mentioned.

However, Governor Copley dying before that order came to hand, Sir Thomas Laurence was set at liberty, but obtained no further redress till about the time that Colonel Nicholson was made Governor of Maryland; Then, in obedience to the aforesaid Order of March 2, 1693, an Act of Assembly was passed, granting the benefit of the Ordinary Licenses to the Secretary for three years, which was continued by like temporary acts for 10 years, till Colonel Seymour's being made Governor.

Colonel Seymour being preferred to that Government in the year 1703, and having Her Majesty's leave to ask of the Assembly of that Province an additional 3^d per Hogshead to be granted him on all Tobacco exported

thence, he arrived there in the beginning of the year 1704, and the Assembly meeting the April following, the Governor finding them disposed to deprive the Secretary of the benefit of the Ordinary Licenses, complied therewith, to make way for their granting the said additional 3^d per Hogshead, and accordingly passed two Acts in that Assembly, one for granting to himself the said additional duty on Tobacco exported, the other to take the profits of Ordinary Licenses from the Secretary, and apply them in ease of the Public Charge of each County in which the Keepers of such Ordinaries reside.

Sir Thomas Laurence applied to the Governor, and produced to him the order of Council above mentioned of March 2, 1693, but finding that far from hearkening to his representations he concurred with the Assembly again, in December, 1704, to cut off half the fees of searches for titles of land, and several other of the old provincial fees, to the value of forty pounds per annum, never before questioned from the beginning of the Government, he obtained leave to come to England, and made his application to Her Majesty, by his Humble Petition presented January 2, 1704, which, being referred to the Lords Commissioners for trade and plantations, they often wrote to the Governor to send over that unjust law concerning the Ordinary Licences, with his reasons for passing the same, which, notwithstanding their repeated Letters to that purpose, was delayed till October, 1707, whereby the Governor has actually brought upon the Secretary a Loss of £800 of five years' profits of his office, by a just and moderate computation, besides the expence of a voyage to England, and that of above five years' attendance in the prosecution of this affair.

The Lords Commissioners having at last, after nigh three years' delay, received this Act of Assembly, referred the same, with Sir Thomas Laurence his petition, to M^r. Attorney-General, who made his report that the said Law was derogatory to Her Majesty's Royal Prerogative in taking away from the Secretary, who is a patent officer of the Crown, his just rights, without Her Majesty's consent first obtained, and that the Secretary ought to have the benefit of the Ordinary Licences, and that the granting such licenses there by the Justices of each County having been found for many years to be of great convenience, there seems to be no reason why the said Act should be made temporary from three years to three years only, and it might be proper for their Lordships to represent it to be for Her Majesty's Service, and at the next Assembly the Act should be made perpetual, or at least for a much

longer duration than it had hitherto been made, and the benefit of the Licenses applied to the use of the Secretary for the time being.

The Lords Commissioners concurring in this Report, and laying the same before Her Majesty, who, by Her Order in Council, dated January 8, 1708, was pleased to approve thereof, Her Majesty was graciously pleased, by her Letter bearing date the 15th of that month, to lay her express commands upon the Governor to comply therewith.

But the Governor, instead of obeying these Her Majesty's Commands, has permitted, if not encouraged, the Assembly sitting in December, 1708, to frame an address to Her Majesty, wherein they have the confidence to tell Her Majesty that Her Commands are unjust, and that they were satisfied the Secretary had no right to those ordinary licences, and at the same time to make an Ordinance by themselves without the Governor, wherein they statute and ordain (their last act for Ordinary Licenses being expired) that no person whatever shall, until Her Majesty's pleasure be further known, presume to keep Ordinaries, or vend any Liquors in their Houses and Plantations by Retail, without license from the Justices of the County Courts, whom they empower to grant the same, and to take security of the Ordinary Keepers for their observing such rules as they shall think fit, and to settle the rates of Liquors arbitrarily, requiring all Ordinary Keepers to take notice of this their Ordinance, on pain of being severely prosecuted for their Contempt, and incurring the Displeasure of the Assembly.

Their address above mentioned has not yet been sent nor presented to Her Majesty, after the return of the two fleets, according to their usual method of delaying to send over such acts as they think will not be approved, which yet take place with them till they are certified of the Disallowance of them in England, and by that means they secure to themselves the continuance of their oppression for some time at least. But Sir Thomas Laurence having got a Copy of it begs leave to observe that they assert therein that an Act being made Anno 1678, to grant to the Lord Baltimore the benefit of Ordinary Licenses, he out of his especial favor to his Secretaries (they being his relations) gave it to them, which is a false insinuation, since it was not out of favor, but in Exchange for the Naval Officers' fees, of which the Secretaries had been in possession, by Act of Assembly, ever since the year 1662, and had for several years received the benefit of the Ordinary Licenses, by virtue of that Exchange, before their late Majesties took the Government into their

Heads, as was proved by Sir Thomas Laurence in his petition, upon which the aforesaid Order in Council of March 2, 169⁵, was granted, and Sir Thomas Laurence restored to the possession of the said Ordinary Licenses to which he was entituled by the words of his Patent. They arraign the Justice of His late Majesty's Order in Council of March 2, 179³, as a judgment given *ex parte*, but own, however, they complied with it by temporary Laws, reserving to themselves the power of disposing of it as to themselves should seem meet, which is a mere evasion, since the Secretary being in possession of this Perquisite, let the granting of Ordinary Licenses be enacted by what Laws soever, whether perpetual or temporary, the benefit thereof ought to accrue to the Secretary as a Branch of his Office; and as to their pretence that they have not been heard, it is utterly false, for when they sent over their law above ment^d, in 169⁶, for taking away the benefit of the Ordinary Licences from the Secretary, they sent over their reasons for it, which, with the Secretary's reply, were fully considered by the Attorney General before he made his report. But by this they let us see what regard they have to the prerogative of the Crown, whose Patent Officers, if this practice be allowed, will become entirely precarious, and the Crown will have no power to grant them more than empty titles, without authority to act in their places or demand their fees, since the Assemblies, by their temporary Laws, may regulate their Offices and their allowances as they shall think fit, as they have lately threatened to reduce the old standing fees of the Secretary's Office yet much lower than they now are, and thus they may render even the Governors themselves their Tools, and make themselves the sole administrators of the Government and arbiters of every man's property, the consequences whereof are easily apprehended, and by some late instances made but too evident. And these are the fruits of Colonel Seymour's conduct in giving up the prerogative for the sake of his own private gain. And thus much shall suffice, as to what relates to Sir Thomas Laurence his Office of Secretary of Maryland.

We come now to speak of the personal hardships and Injustice Sir Thomas Laurence has suffered from the Gov^t. In the year 1704 a Bond of One hundred and twenty pounds, with interest, due from Sir Thomas Laurence, being put into the hands of M^r. William Bladen, Clerk of the Council and appointed Attorney of the Creditor, he accordingly demanded the same of Sir Thomas Laurence, who did, in the Governor's presence,

without suit offer an Assignment of Sheriff's Bonds due to him for the fees of his Office, and of other debts unquestionable and stated, amounting to 119,834 lb of Tobacco, of the value of above £400 Sterling to the said M^r. Bladen, as a Security for this debt, to be sold forthwith for the payment thereof, which is the only way of payment in Maryland, where little money is current, which he refused to accept as such; but, being conscious of the Governor's intention to oppress Sir Thomas Laurence, obliged him, in the Governor's presence, to assign over to himself, besides the said arrear, half of the growing profits of his whole Office for the security of the said debt, which, how hard and unjust soever, was complied with; the Governor, who ought to have interposed, encouraging and countenancing the oppression; and the assignment was accordingly executed, in May, 1704, by Sir Thomas Laurence, M^r. William Dent, his Attorney, and M^r. Bladen, Attorney for the Creditor.

But no sooner was M^r. Dent, Sir Thomas Laurence his attorney, gone home, above eighty miles from Annapolis, but M^r. Bladen pretended he was surprised into this Agreement, though drawn and signed by himself, for that, beside the great arrear above mentioned, he intended to have the profits of Sir Thomas Laurence's whole Office assigned over to him for payment of the said debt. This insolent demand was referred to the Governor, who was present at the first agreement, and an Arbitrator in it, who, to the amazement & confusion of Sir Thomas Laurence, decl^d that he understood that not only the above mentioned arrear of four hundred pounds value, but also the growing profits of the Secretary's whole Office ought to have been so made over, and compelled Sir Thomas Laurence to sign such a new agreement to that purpose as M^r. Bladen himself should draw up, who threatened him with a writ *Ne exeat Provincia* if he did not comply, and so he was forced to submit to this unheard of piece of Injustice and oppression, and executed this new Agreement the same month of May, 1704.

Having at this time, as is before related, resolved to come for England, and obtained Her Majesty's gracious licence for that purpose, and also the Governor's in Council, he embarked in the beginning of June, 1704, having appointed M^r. Dent for Attorney, and left in his hands all his securities, with powers to receive all the profits of his Office, and to sell the forementioned arrear forthwith to discharge the said debt. M^r. Dent dying in four or five months after his departure, M^r. Bladen being Clerk of the Council and

Attorney for the Creditor, and who received Sir Thomas Laurence for the hire of a Servant of his as an assistant to the Clerk of the Provincial Court, 12,000 lb of Tobacco yearly, upon his own motion obtained an Order from the Governor in Council in December, 1704, which he drew up himself, whereby, under pretence of paying the salaries of the Clerks of the Office, he put himself in possession of Sir Thomas Laurence's whole Estate, without any process at Law or judgment of the Provincial Court, though he well knew that the Governor and Council are no Court of Justice but upon appeals from the Provincial Court; and being so possessed of the whole Office, refused to give place to the Letters of Attorney which Sir Thomas Laurence, in the year following, 1705, sent to M^r. George Plater and M^r. Amos Garret, empowering and requiring them forthwith to discharge the said debt, but kept possession till October, 1706, when Colonel Robert Quarry, Her Majesty's Surveyor-General of Her Customs in the North of America, being added, a third Attorney, by the Secretary, came with new powers, and paid off the said debt, which M^r. Bladen then took in Tobacco, at Six Shillings the Hundred, which, two years and a half before he refused to do, but received in that time what he pleased of the best part of the Secretary's Estate, and disposed of it as he thought fit, without taking any notice of the Secretary, or giving any account to the Creditor, to whom now and after three years he hath not paid half of what he then received, but hath suffered several great debts of the Secretary's to be lost or become desperate by not suing for or demanding the same, and several securities for great quantities of Tobacco to be embezzled, never giving the Secretary or his Attorney any account of the same, but in the meantime promoted and commenced several suits of Law against the Secretary for sums of great value, and obtained Judgment against him by false Juries (particularly in the case of Thomas Boardly, for nigh 30,000 lbs of Tobacco), where he knew nothing was due or demandable, whilst, on the other hand, several sheriffs (particularly M^r. Vincent Hemsly, Sheriff of Talbot County, who, by M^r. Bladen, his Attorney, nonsuited the said Sir Thomas Laurence, and forswore a debt on his account, stated of 45,000 weight of Tobacco, of the value of about £150 sterling) and other responsible persons who have for 5 or 6 years owed the Secretary great quantities of Tobacco upon accounts stated and Bills of Exchange often protested, either deny the debts upon perjured oaths, or refuse to pay the same, finding the said practices agreeable to the Governor's inclinations to ruin the Secretary, and make his

Office of no value. By which means great quantities of Tobacco have been taken away, and are detained from him, and the value of near £1,000 of the just profits of his Office still due for the years 1703, 1704, 1705. Besides the account of five years' benefit, of the Ordinary Licenses and other old established fees taken away by Governor Seymour and the Assemblies in 1704, of the value of at least £800, more are still owing to him, of which his Attorney, besides the debt paid to M^r. Bladen, have not as yet been able to receive and return to him above £100, and despair of recovering or receiving for him any considerable part of that great arrear.

But, forasmuch as Colonel John Seymour, Governor of Maryland, is lately dead, and obedience cannot be well given to Her Majesty's Commands till a new Governor be sent over with instructions for that purpose. But that M^r. William Bladen, the Chief Instrument of his oppressions, is still alive in Maryland, who, upon the death of M^r. Thomas Laurence, second son to the said Sir Tho^s, and Sec^y of Maryland, by patent from his late Majesty, in the year 1701, having been made Secretary *pro tempore* by the then Gov^t, & recommended to the Lords Commissioners for Trade and Plantations as very fit for that Office, but being disappointed thereof by the return of Sir Thomas Laurence in 1701 with a new patent for that post, meditated revenge, and notwithstanding that Sir Thomas had long before given him the County Clerk's place of St. Mary's, of the yearly value of an hundred and fifty pounds a year, which he held 3 years freely by his favor, besides several other obligations laid on him, yet did he take the said opportunities to oblige him to leave Maryland, and, as soon as he came home, had the confidence, by his Father, to offer him, the said Sir Thomas, £300 for the resignation of his Office to himself.

Therefore, that Her Majesty may be truly informed of the oppression and ruin brought on the said Sir Thomas and his Office, which could not be done without great difficulty during the life and residence of the said Colonel Seymour in Maryland, the Secretary hath humbly prayed that Her Majesty's Order may be sent thither, empowering and requiring Colonel Francis Nicholson, Colonel Robert Quarry, Surveyor-General of Her Customs in the North America, and a member of the Council, Thomas Brooks, Esquire, late a member of the Council, Thomas Smithson, Esq^r, late Chief Justice of the Provincial Court, William Coursy, Esq^r, a member of the Council, The Rev^d M^r. Henry Hall, a Commissary to the Lord Bishop of London, Major Whittington, and

Mr. Amos Garret, Merchants, or any four of them, whereof Colonel Nicholson or Colonel Quarry to be one, to examine the truth of the allegations in his petition against the said Colonel Seymour and Mr. William Bladen, and all other the Instruments of his Oppressions, that upon due return of a true account to Her Majesty of all the losses and sufferings sustained by the said Sir Thomas by these long, unjust, and arbitrary proceedings of Colonel Seymour and his agents, such relief may be awarded to the said Sir Thomas Laurence as to Her Majesty's great wisdom and justice shall seem reasonable.

Since the printing of this Case, & upon the Lords Commissioners for Trade and Plantations not thinking it proper to have the matter examined in Maryland, S^r Thomas, in January, 1709, again petitioned Her Majesty, which, having been referred to the Lords Commissioners, they again reported back, &c., to Her Majesty the Sec^r's right both to the benefit of the ordinary Licenses and the great arrear, now of about 8 years, due for the same, and which, having been confirmed by Her Majesty in Council, her second Royal Letter commanding restitution of the ordinary licenses and of the profits of the same since 1704 hath been granted. and was sent to Maryland in Nov^r last, 1712.

THOMAS LAURENCE.

Note. The last paragraph of the foregoing, beginning "Since the printing," is in the handwriting of Sir Thomas Laurence. The residue is a printed paper.—F. L. H.

Rev. Mr. SKIPPON to the Right Rev^d Lord Bishop of London.

ANNAPOLIS, Jan^y 19th, 1714.

MY LORD,

Upon your Lordship's entourage and command, I have presumed to acquaint you with my safe arrival here, after a tedious voyage of Eleven weeks. I found every thing according to expectation, have had Induction into the Parish, and am well received by all the Parishioners. Since my coming I have constantly read the publick prayers of the Church on

Wednesdays, Fridays, and Holidays, though hitherto have met with small encouragement to proceed; the number of persons sometimes scarcely amounting to a congregation. I shall notwithstanding this persist in my resolution, and hope to accomplish it when the weather grows warmer. I doubt not but I shall find some difficulty in these purposes, because there seems to be an universal disregard (a few only excepted) of holy things. I need not give a more convincing Proof of this than the neglect of Baptism among them & the Holy Sacrament. The former of these is so notorious, that whole families, both parents and children, do live, and sometimes die without it; and indeed seem, for the most part, to take no care about it. I have baptized, since my coming here, 12 children, of 2, 3, & 4 years old & upwards, such with the mother of one of them, who had been bred up among Quakers.

The Holy Sacrament is administered here but six times in the year, and then the communions are but very thin; last Christmas the whole number did not amount to above twenty, tho' this Parish be very large. I design, God willing, to bring them to a monthly communion, and to that end will, by God's assistance, endeavour to convince them of the necessity of frequenting the Holy Table.

But what gives me the greatest uneasiness is, that dissoluteness of manners (the unavoidable consequence of the want of Discipline among us) which has universally spread itself over the Province, of which the frequency of Polygamy, fornication, and such like sins is a flagrant instance. These are beyond my power to redress, and the more, because those who are guilty despise the Checks of Conscience and Religion, and are above every consideration but the Penalties of the Laws, and here there are few to enforce their obedience.

These, my Lord, are what I can at present inform you of, and concerning which I beg your Lordship's Directions. I recommend myself to your Lordship's prayers to the Throne of Grace for me, that I may have strength from above to enable me to discharge that important Office I have taken upon me, so as to save my own soul and the souls of those committed to my charge.

I am, my Lord,

Y^r Lordship's most

dutiful Son and most humble Serv^t,

SAM^l SKIPPON.

Queries by the Governor to the Clergy of Maryland.

June 24th, 1714.

REV^d GENT^l,

The following particulars, which I have for your ease reduced into questions, are some of those things I am enjoined to enquire into, and do accordingly desire your answer to every particular of them :

1st. Is God Almighty duly served throughout the Province? Is the Book of Common Prayer, as by Law established, read each Sunday and Holiday; and the Blessed Sacrament administered according to the rites of the Church of England? Are there a sufficient number of churches built for that end; & are those that are built kept decently and orderly? Have you all competent maintenances, and Glebe houses and Land for the exercise of your Industry?

2^{ndly}. Is every Minister one of the Vestry of his Parish?

3^{rdly}. Is there any Minister who preaches and administers the Sacrament in any orthodox church or chapel without being in orders? For resolution of which I desire to see your ministerial Letters.

4th. Have you all a due sense of the Lord Bishop of London's Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction here? and do you do all you can to promote the same?

5th. Are there any schoolmasters within your respective Parishes that came from England, and do preach without the Lord Bishop of London's Licence? or that came from other parts, and teach without a Licence from the Gov^r?

6th. Is there a table of marriages, established by the canons of the Church of England, hung up in each Orthodox Church? and is it duly observed?

7^b. Is Drunkenness & Debauchery, swearing & Blasphemy, discountenanced and punished?

These particulars I am enjoined to enquire into, and for your further ease and conveniency, if you think fit to appoint any of your number that may more readily convene to consult affairs, they shall meet with all due encouragement from me.

JNO. HART.

The humble Representation of the Clergy of Maryland concerning the state of the Church in that Province, in answer to certain Questions proposed by his Excellency the Governor to them.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY,

We, the Clergy of the Church of England in the Province of Maryland, return your Excellency our unfeigned thanks for this signal proof of your Excellency's Care for the Church, and, in obedience to your commands, present you with a view of our Parishes and churches as perfect as possibly we could; Every one of us applying his own case to each of your Excellency's Proposals; and upon the whole we find, and according to the tenor of Article 1st:

That God Almighty is duly served throughout this Province, according to the Book of Common Prayer, in every parish where there is an Incumbent every Sunday, and in many every holiday. The Blessed Sacrament is administered according to the rites of the Church of England. There are in most Parishes a sufficient number of churches: it were to be wished the Parishioners would take a little care to put some in better order and decency. Glebes are various; in some very good, in some but weak ones, and in some none. We cannot but aver that most of our Parishes have but very bare

competency, which we are ready to make out by enumerating particulars, and appealing to your Excellency, the Hon^{ble} Council, and all the world.

We beg your Excellency's leave to add a word concerning Libraries; that it is commonly received by many in England, and particularly the Honorable Society for Propagating the Gospel in Foreign Parts, there is a Library in every Parish, that we find by a careful computation there are Parishes in this Province that neither have nor ever had a Library.

Art. 2^d. Every minister is principal Vestryman in his Parish.

Art. 3^d. We know of none that administers in the sacred offices of our Church without orders, and for your Excellency's full satisfaction we are ready to produce our Ministerial Letters. Some of us who live most remote from this City pray your Excellency would depute any of your Honorable Council to inspect them.

Art. 4th. We do all profess with one voice that we have a due sense of the Lord Bishop of London's Jurisdiction here, and we will ever do all we can to promote the same as long as it shall please God to continue him to us.

Art. 5th. The case of schools is very bad; good schoolmasters are very much wanting, what we have very insufficient, and of their being qualified by the Bishop of London's or Governor's Licence, it has been entirely neglected.

Art. 6th. There is a table of Marriages in every Church, and there is a severe Law also to prevent Incestuous Marriages.

To the 7th and last Article, which truly we regard as of the utmost consequence in Religion, we say we have and shall use our best endeavours in the Exercise of our Functions to discountenance the sins of drunkenness, debauchery, swearing, and Blasphemy; and we pray Your Excellency to enjoin the Civil Magistrates to see the wholesome Laws of this Province put in Execution in order to suppress them more effectually. To conclude, we hope your Excellency will not take it amiss if we add that we humbly think the Penalties annexed to some Laws against certain sins, particularly the sin of fornication, too light to suppress the Sin, and that your Excellency would

be pleased to propose to the Hon^{ble} House of Delegates that they would seek an expedient against the damnable sin of Polygamy.

The Growth of Popery by the coming in of many Priests of late, and the abuse the Dissenters make of the Indulgence given them by Law, we humbly propose to your Excellency's serious consideration.

And to the last particular of your Excellency's proposals, We thankfully embrace it, and have unanimously made choice of M^r. Henry Hall, M^r. Thomas Cockshutt, M^r. Joseph Colebanck, M^r. Henderson, M^r. Richard Sewell, and M^r. Henry Nicholls, to consult affairs.

We are your Excellency's

Most humble Servants,

THO^s BAYLYE,
ALEXAN. WILLIAMSON,
JACOB HENDERSON,
RICH^d SEWELL,
THO^s COCKSHUTT,
JONATHAN CAY,
JOHN DONALDSON,
JOSEPH COLEBANCK,
HENRY HALL,
JONATHAN WHITE,
HENRY NICHOLLS,

CHRIS. WILKINSON,
R. OWEN,
HENRY JENNINGS,
J. FRASER,
JAMES WILLIAMSON,
THO^s THOMPSON,
W^m TIBBS,
ROB^t SCOT,
DANIEL MAYNADIER,
W^m MACHONCHIE.

Gov^r HART to the Right Rev^d Lord Bishop of London.

ANNAPOLIS IN MARYLAND, July 10th, 1714.

MY LORD,

I am unhappy that the first time I had the honour to be introduced to so great and valuable a person as your Lordship, I was then obliged to take my leave of your Lordship, being under a necessity the next day to prosecute my voyage to Maryland.

Your Lordship's arriving in London but 8 days before I left it, I could not then expect (from the weighty affairs your Lordship was employed in) to be admitted for a longer time than to pay my duty, & receive your Lordship's Blessing. This was the reason (my Lord) I did not lay several instructions I am honored with from her Majesty before your Lordship, in relation to the Church of Maryland. This, my Lord, is another reason why I have not rendered that service to the Church which I might have done had I more time to have received your Lordship's Commands, which I am ever ready to obey with an humble submission.

I enquired into the state of the Clergy on my arrival here, and was informed that they never had met together since the first settlement of this Province; and finding that they were strangers to one another by their distant residence on this vast tract of Land, I convened them to this Town on the 24th of June, as being convenient for its situation in the center of the Province.

Considering myself as a Layman & unequal to the charge in hand, I was very tender in offering any thing from myself, but digested her Majesty's Instructions into Queries, a copy of which is enclosed to your Lordship, with a representation of the clergy upon them, as also a letter from that Rev^d Body.

These Gentlemen's expectations are agreeably raised by your Lordship's translation to the See of London, and think themselves happy under the care of a pastor equally capable to guide & protect them.

There are among the clergy of Maryland many worthy persons, who deserve more encouragement than can be expected here. I am sorry to represent to your Lordship, on the contrary, that there are some whose education and morals are a scandal to their profession, & I am amazed how such illiterate men came to be in holy orders.

The advantages which the Jesuits have from their negligence is but too evident in the many Proselytes they make. Nor is there any other remedy for this growing evil, but by making use of the authority I have to constrain them from entering the houses of Dying persons.

Mais les Jésuites sont Jésuites par tout.

My Lord, I have enjoyed but a slender proportion of health in this intemperate season, which is the occasion of not being so particular in the state of the Church as I intend to be, if it pleases Providence to recover my strength.

I hope your Lordship will view with a favorable eye this imperfect relation,

& accept of my Zeal for the service of the Church, which I assure your Lordship is sincere, and if your Lordship will have the goodness to direct that Zeal, it is possible I may be useful to Religion in my station here, which would be the greatest Blessing of my Life.

I am, my Lord, with great resignation to your Lordship's pleasure,

My Lord, y^{rs}, &c.,

JOHN HART.

*Mr. HENDERSON to the Right Rev^d Lord Bishop of
London.*

MARYLAND, Sept^r 1st, 1715.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR LORDSHIP,

I hope your Lordship will pardon the trouble of this, since it comes to acquaint you with some transactions in this part of your Diocese, and by a bearer that is capable to inform you of the whole state of the Church.

I am heartily sorry no better account can be given of it than that a great part of the clergy are very loose in their lives and negligent in their offices, and having no authority to restrain them, they pursue these practices without controul.

Upon the arrival of his Excellency our present Governor, some parishes were in hopes he had power to remove such as were a scandal to religion, as there are indeed many such here, one of the vestries, viz^t, of St. Paul's Parish, in Baltimore County, made application to him by way of Petition, and drew up articles against their minister, the Rev^d Mr. W^m Tibbs. His Excellency (who has been always very careful about the affairs of the Church and Clergy) sent for some of us to consult withall what was proper to be done. We met, and gave his Excellency our opinion that Mr. Tibbs should be advised immediately to change his Life and reconcile himself to his Parishioners, or, in case he did not, that then his Excellency should allow him to make his defence, and his Accusers to prove the Crimes alledged against him, and the whole transmitted to your Lordship for your determination. (I have inclosed the whole for your Lordship's perusal.) After this, the Vestry

continuing their applications, his Excellency thought it might be of service to summon him before his Majesty's Council, to make his defence there, in order to subject it to your Lordship; but being advised that such acts were purely of Ecclesiastical Cognizance, tho' he has an instruction that favored it, yet he desisted, and said he was sorry it was not in his power to serve the Church, but upon further consideration he told the Vestry he would send three Clergymen to examine that matter, and this was purely to quiet the minds of the people till your Lordship was acquainted with it.

Several other Parishes are waiting the issue of this, and I'm afraid, if some speedy remedy is not applied, the consequence will be very pernicious. The Roman Catholics and Dissenters are very numerous, & make great advantage of these things. All we can do is to lament the want of Bishops, whom we have long expected, but I'm afraid that is a work not easily to be effected, & in regard it is so, it is highly necessary that your Lordship should appoint a Commissary, with authority to exercise the Discipline of our Church; or rather two Commissarys, if your Lordship thinks fit, one for the Eastern side of the Bay, and the other for the Western side, for this Province is divided by the great Bay of Cheaseapake, and it is almost impossible for one Commissary to inspect both sides.

This Gentleman will inform your Lordship of all other affairs. I should not have offered this, but that I believe nobody else will acquaint your Lordship with these things, & that the case of the Church requires a speedy remedy. I beg your Lordship's Prayers, & am, &c.,

JACOB HENDERSON.

Gov' HART to the Right Rev^d Lord Bishop of London.

MARYLAND, Sept^r 6th, 1715.

MY LORD,

I have by several Letters since my arrival acquainted your Lordship of the affairs of the Church within my Government, and have done all in my power to serve its Interest, and maintain the Clergy in their due credit &

esteem, but unless I had a power to remove such as are notoriously scandalous in their lives, I cannot do effectual service. I am sorry that I am under a necessity to inform your Lordship that there are many such here, and that I believe nothing will reclaim some of them until they feel the severities of Ecclesiastical Censures.

Several complaints have been made to me of them, of which I took no notice, save of those against M^r. Tibbs, and no further of that than what was necessary to quiet the minds of the people till your Lordship's Pleasure was known. I have desired the Rev^d M^r. Henderson to give your Lordship a full account of that case, to which I beg leave to refer your Lordship.

It were to be wished, both for the honor and increase of our Church, we had a Suffragan Bishop here. This Province is a large tract of Land, and contains a considerable number of Inhabitants, who are liable & are daily carried away from our Church by the craft & subtlety of insinuating Jesuits and separatists of all kinds, who make great advantages of the Sloth and ill conduct of our Clergy, and Religion being in its infancy. I think it highly necessary that our Church should be in its full perfection, and not left to the managem^t of such persons as can be procured to undertake a Mission under so great disadvantages.

I hope your Lordship will pardon the liberty I have here taken, & believe that it proceeds entirely from the great concern I have for the success of the Church of England in these parts. It grieves me to hear daily of the numbers leaving it, and going over to the Roman Catholics and dissenting congregations, but none abandoning their Errors, and embracing the true religion. This obliges me to propose to your Lordship's consideration, whether it would not be necessary, until such time as a Bishop can be settled, to appoint 2 Commissaries for the Province, invested by your Lordship with Ecclesiastical authority to inspect the affairs of the Church, & to preserve a decorum in it. It is my opinion that it would contribute very much to the Growth of the Church, if your Lordship approves of it, & does not design to send persons immediately from England in those stations, but will please to make choice of 2 out of those that are already settled here. The fittest that I know to execute those offices are, for the eastern side of the Bay, the Rev^d M^r. Christ^r Wilkinson, and for the western side, the Rev^d M^r. Jacob Henderson, whom I have good grounds to believe will faithfully discharge the trust reposed in them.

His Lordship, the late Bishop of London, appointed as his Commissary the Rev^d M^r. Henry Hall, but he never thought fit to execute any of the authorities reposed in him; nay, I am informed he absolutely declined it, for which reason I do not think it convenient to name him to your Lordship.

I must acquaint your Lordship that there are 4 parishes vacant in this province, besides 2 small ones not sufficient to maintain an Incumbent. I hope your Lordship will supply those four parishes as soon as possible.

The Bearer, M^r. Tho^s Bordley (who is the son of a Clergyman) & whom I recommend to your Lordship for an honest, ingenious Gentleman, he will inform your Lordship what is farther necessary to be known of our affairs.

We have had several turns in the Government since I had it, which obliges me to send this Gentleman to transact some matters in my behalf. I humbly beg your Lordship to vouchsafe him your protection & countenance, & if, upon his application to your Lordship, you shall please to grant him your assistance, none shall retain a more grateful sense of it than,

My Lord,

Your Lordship's most humble & most obed^t serv^t,

JOHN HART.

Rev. M^r. HENDERSON to the Secretary.

(EXTRACT.)

PATUXENT IN MARYLAND, April 1, 1715.

SIR,

* * * Our Church in this Province is established by Act of Assembly, and, considering the circumstances of the Country, the provision made for the Clergy not to be complained of, tho' in the laying out of the Parishes, some happened to be so small that they never had, nor are likely to have, any Minister till some addition is made to the Income.

The Clergy (generally speaking) are not so industrious, nor their lives so innocent as those employed by the Hon^{ble} Society, which makes other Sects grow apace, tho' they decrease in those places that are under the direc-

tion of the Hon'ble Society; but especially the Roman Catholics gain much ground of us, & I verily believe that if the jurisdiction of our Church do not soon take place here it will by degrees dwindle to nothing. I am not of Opinion that the fault is entirely in the Clergy; there is a great deal owing to the diligence & ingenuity of the Romish Priests; but, at the same time, it is very obvious that the weakness of some of our Clergy, the negligence of others, & the ill lives of many, have made more converts to that Church than their priests could have done, notwithstanding their extraordinary abilities. This is not only my own opinion, but the opinion of many worthy Gentlemen who have lived long in this Province.

I hope I shall not transgress if I acquaint the Hon'ble Society with my own circumstances as at present they stand. After I was disengaged of New Castle, which happened a little after the arrival of Gov' Hart, I applied myself to him for Induction to a Church about 16 miles distant from me, which he readily granted, & which I have duly served ever since, tho' the fatigue of it is very great, yet, considering the scarcity of the Clergy in these parts, & the miserable condition of the people for want of instruction, I thought I could not lye idle in the Church.

I have presumed to give the Hon'ble Society this account of myself, to assure them y^t nothing shall hinder me, wherever I am, zealously to prosecute the duties of my Function, & since I was for some time their Missionary, I think it my duty, whilst in these parts, to take all opportunities of informing them of the state of Religion, believing it will be acceptable to them, & hoping by their bounty & good offices we shall some time or other have Bishops settled among us, which is the only method can be taken effectually to propagate Religion here.

Be pleased, Sir, to communicate this to the Hon'ble Society, with my hearty wishes & prayers for success to the work they are engaged in. If in anything I could be serviceable to them in these parts, I should be very ready to undertake it at my own Expence, provided it were not to fix me anywhere from hence, but any Journey or Service for a Month or two at a time should be duly complied with by, Sir,

Your most humble Servant,

JACOB HENDERSON.

The Secretary to Governor HART.

Aug^t 6, 1715.

HONOURED SIR,

I received your Letter of the 20th July, 1714 (tho' a long time after the date), enclosing some Queries made by you to the Clergy in your Government, with their answer thereto, & having communicated the same to the Society, I am sorry I have not had an opportunity before now to inform you that I am commanded to return you their hearty thanks for such your kind account of the state of Religion in that Province, & that notwithstanding no part of that Province is under the direction of the Society, they are willing, as far as in them lies, to assist the Clergy there, and accordingly agreed that application be made to the Lord Baltimore for enlargement of their Salaries & Glebes from forfeitures and escheated Lands in that Province. His Lordship's decease at that juncture prevented such their application to him. Yet they have not been wanting to do what in them is with my Lord Guilford and others concerned in my Lord Baltimore's Estate and Affairs, but as to the effect thereof I cannot yet give you any certain account.

I am, &c.

*Petition of the Parishioners of North Elk River for a
Minister.*

To the Right Rev^d Father in God, Lord Bishop of London.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR LORDSHIP:

Because we are sensible of your Lordship's fatherly care over all this America, in propagating the Gospel in this Foreign Parts, by sending over good Ministers and Books, whereby to promote the Christianity, not only by teaching but a good life; accordingly we, in this Parish of North Elk River, in Maryland, do presume to come with this address to your Lordship, humbly imploring your Lordship's assistance and support in our great want of a Min-

ister, and God's Word among us being ever destitute of a Teacher, since we were settled, notwithstanding, have been made a Parish by the laws of our Country, about nine years, and in the time have builded a Church, and now the Revenues of the Parish do amount to about forty pounds per Annum, and as our Parish is a growing and increasing Parish every day, so the Revenues will accordingly increase. But if this should seem too small in the beginning, we humbly crave your Lordship's favour to mend it from home; and being we have lived here so long without any Minister, only now and then of some neighbouring Ministers have had few Sermons, and we and our youth grow up in ignorance, without catechising and very little instruction in the fear of God. Therefore we humbly desire your Lordship out of fatherly love to send us a Minister not only of good learning, but likewise of good life and conversation, and be watchful among us, because we live in a strange Country that is mixt with all sorts of Religion; set likewise of Books, which are necessary for us and our children. God be pleased to bless this our earnest desire, by your Lordship's due care over this his flock; and we, the Petitioners, shall ever pray for your Lordship's welfare, &c.

Your Lordship's

Humble Petitioners,

NICHOLAS HYLAND,

SAMSON GEORGE,

JOSEPH YOUNG,

FRANCIS MAULDIR,

SAM^r VANS,

JOHN CURER.

Rev^d JONATHAN WHITE to the Bishop of London.

MARYLAND, Oct^r 8, 1716.

MY LORD,

It is now more than 17 years since I was first sent into this province by my late Lord of London to assist in preventing the growth of Popery, &c., in these parts, and I have endeavored all that time to serve this Infant Church after the best manner that I could, but now, my Lord, I am very sorry to acquaint you that our Gov^r, Col^l Hart, has rewarded me very badly for it, he having lately granted a license to my eldest Son, a young man and very

hopeful, after many repeated promises to the contrary, to marry with an Irish Papist, a Bond Servant to a Gentleman here, and who was then in England, and continued to be his Servant still, which is looked upon by some of the Clergy here to be a great reflection upon our Church, which had almost brought my grey hairs with sorrow to the Grave. And now, my Lord, I could heartily wish you would be pleased to forbid such irregular practices for the future, and I should be glad to see this part of the Lordship's Diocese enjoy the happy influence of our Church's Discipline; and thus, my Lord, I humbly beg the prayers and pardon for this presumption, and am, my Lord,

Your Lordship's most dutiful &

obedient Son,

JONATHAN WHITE.

*Rev^d CHRISTOPHER WILKINSON to the Bishop of
London.*

QUEEN ANN'S COUNTY, Oct^r 10th, 1716.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR LORDSHIP:

I have received the Commission which your Lordship has entrusted with me, and I shall endeavour to execute it with that caution as may support your Lordship's Jurisdiction here and answer the ends thereof, and I doubt not but it will have a good effect, especially since His Excellency concerns himself so heartily in it, and assures me of all the countenance and encouragement that lies in his power. I can say that His Excellency has no other view than the encouragement of our religion, the protection of the Clergy, and the welfare of the whole province. The public Good is his great care, to the neglect of his own interest.

I will give your Lordship an exact account of the number and value of the parishes on our shore as soon as I have the opportunity of getting a just information thereof; and I shall immediately acquaint the parishioners of North Elk River of your Lordship's design to supply them with a Minister. I have nothing more to add, but to crave your Lordship's advice and direc-

tions in the execution of the Commission you have given me, and your blessing.

I am, Your Lordship's most humble
and most obed^t Serv^t,
CHRIS. WILKINSON.

*Rev^d CHRISTOPHER WILKINSON to the Bishop of
London.*

ST. PAUL'S IN CHESTER RIVER, MARYLAND,
July 3rd, 1717.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR LORDSHIP:

Before Colonel Holland's return, by whom I rec^d your Lordship's Letter, we had had our visitation on the 8th of May, the Season of the year not permitting us to meet sooner. I proceeded in it after the method I've observed in England. We had public prayers and a Sermon suitable to the occasion; then I read my charge, delivered articles of Enquiry to the Churchwardens, who unanimously assured me of their diligence and faithfulness according to the best of their knowledge in the discharge of their office, and then I ordered your Lordship's commission to be read, and for the satisfaction of the people I translated it into the English tongue. And it was no small pleasure to me to hear that those Gentlemen who attended our visitation did declare their approbation of it, and hoped that it would very much restrain the irregularities of the people. And I, for my part, so long as your Lordship entrusts me with this Commission, shall proceed with that moderation and prudence as to avoid (as much as I can) the two extremes of too much lenity and severity, & shall, in whatever difficulties occur, consult with my Brethren, and follow their advice till I receive your Lordship's better directions.

Your Lordship would do well to inform me whether I may demand fees, what and how they may be recovered, and whether it will be prudent to apply to the Gov^r for a Law to support your authority. We are in great want of

Books relating to those affairs. I foresee that I shall have occasion to be very much abroad, and cannot so well attend my cure as I should; I desire, therefore, your Lordships would be pleased to send me an Assistant. I shall be willing to allow him what your Lordship will order out of my incomes. The number of taxables in my parish are betwixt 8 and 9 hundred. I hope the Society will add something toward his maintenance. I have acquainted the Parishioners of North Elk what small hopes there is of a minister for them; and, indeed, I know not how they can expect one, for they were very uneasy till the parish was divided, which the Assembly did upon their application, whereas both parishes are scarce a competency for one minister. I thought it had not been usual to divide the parishes without the consent of the Bishop, the patron, and the Incumbent, and if your Lordship be of the same opinion & thinks fit, I shall endeavor to prevent it for the future, for the people are very desirous to have more parishes, though we want Ministers to supply those that are vacant. There are two Vacancies in Somerset County, and I am afraid must continue so till they find out some other expedient for a maintenance than Tobacco, for they, having no good river for the reception of ships, have little or no trade. Kent Island is also vacant, by reason of the few taxables they have. I have nothing more to add, but to beg your Lordship's blessing.

I am, Your Lordship's most dutiful
& obedient Servant,
CHRIS. WILKINSON.

The Bishop of London to Mr. WILKINSON.

FULHAM, Oct' 7, 1717.

SIR,

I have received by yours of the 3rd of July last the welcome account of what you have done in execution of the Commission I sent, and of the good reception the ~~same has~~ found in your Country. I much approve your intention of proceeding with moderation in the exercise of the authority you are entrusted with, by which you will best answer the ends I proposed in giving you the Commission. You may be assured of my desire that the

exercise of my Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction may be promoted by all prudent and proper means, and to that end you will do well to inform yourself how far the Commissarys of the neighboring Governm^{ts} have extended my Ecclesiastical authority, so far as you may with safety go. But I would not have you make any farther steps without first having the consent and approbation of their Governor, to whom it may not be improper to apply for a Law to support my authority, as he is directed by his Instructions to encourage the exercise of my jurisdiction, as far as conveniently may be. But this I leave to your discretion.

I am sorry you have so many vacancies in Maryland, and that there is so little prospect of their being supplied. My endeavors, however, shall not be wanting in order thereto, though without hope of receiving any Assistance from the Society.

I am, Your assured friend & Brother,
JOHN LONDON.

Clergy, &c., to the Bishop of London.

MARYLAND, Oct' 25th, 1717.

RIGHT HON'BLE & REV^d FATHER IN GOD:

We, the Clergy of that part of the Province of Maryland which is situate the Eastern shore of the Bay of Chesapeake, being convened now by Order of the Rev^d your Lordship's Commissary, M^r. Christopher Wilkinson, embrace this opportunity of returning your Lordship our unfeigned thanks for the great care your Lordship has taken for the poor Church in these parts, in appointing the Rev^d and worthy Gentleman to preside over us, who has a double right to our due deference and respect your Lordship's Commission and his own personal wisdom, Prudence, and Experience, who, we doubt not, will acquaint your Lordship what is transacted at this time. And by him we presume to address your Lordship with a view of some things of importance, that concern our Church in this part of the Province.

It is the first complaint of grievance that ever we were concerned in, nor will we dare to persist in it, If your Lordship please to order us to decline it.

The Settlement of our Parochial Benefices we were always well pleased with- all (and should be more could the Government be prevailed upon by your Lordship's influence to assign a more convenient time for the payment of our Tobacco by the Sheriffs), which, although it cannot be counted more than a very moderate and scanty provision, yet is become the object of discontent to some malicious and envious spirits, that it is not without good grounds we assure your Lordship that there is an intention of curtailing and diminishing them to a contemptible modicum by reducing of many or most parishes, whereas there are several so sorry that either never had and some that never are any more like to have an incumbent. And this course will drive all that are now in the province out of it, if they can get any better provision anywhere, and in truth no Gentleman of any merit will ever take up with such a scandalous maintenance as the prevailing part of our people (so great, alas! is either their ignorance or irreligion) do think and vouch to be a competency.

In their last general Assembly, they have made a Law in which are very dishonorable reflections on the Clergy, and an abatement of their marriage offerings, which have been customary ever since there has been any face of a Church in this Country. Neither do they dissemble but that they do not intend to cease here; witness a Clause in the aforesaid act, which directly contradicts our law of Religion enacted by Royal authority. We have too much reason to suspect that they will ever be deaf to all our applications for the support of your Lordship's Commissary, nor can they endure to think of any jurisdiction of that kind. We are given to understand that there is a design to address your Lordship for your consent to the reduction of parishes, and this reason is intended to be given, because some parishes are too large for the minister, but in reality it is nothing but the ambition of some richer persons to have a Church or Chapel for their own private conveniences more than the good of the public. But granting it were as they say, the remedy would be worse than the disease. For, although this might be the case of one or two, yet, to have most of the rest reduced, and consequently to impoverish the whole body of the Clergy throughout the province, will be attended with most pernicious consequences to the whole Church of Priests and People. It would be presumption to be more particular; your Lordship's great wisdom cannot chuse but see into them.

We should be very unjust to our Excellent Governor if we did not declare that he is not of their temper, but that we are obliged to him, and that he

would be more our friend if he were able, or the people more willing; and we should be unjust to our people, and especially the Inhabitants of this part of the province, if we do not acknowledge that they are generally a very sober and grave people, only that the evil we complain of is owing to the instigation of malevolent persons and Dissenters, and indeed not a little to their own too penurious and narrow inclinations. We confess to your Lordship that these machinations are not actually accomplished upon us, but that they are everywhere avowed publicly to be designed, and your Lordship is not ignorant that they may pass a Law which is obligatory here until such time as it is either assented to or repealed in Great Britain, which would be a sore calamity upon us, and probably not remedied neither then.

All we beg and all we hope from your Lordship is to prevent them beseeching you to intercede with the Right Honorable the Lord Baltimore, our Governor and Proprietary, and the Lord Guildford, his Guardian, that they would enjoin all Gov^{rs} for the time being not to pass any act relating to Ecclesiastical affairs without causing the Commissarys or some other Clergymen to attend, to know what they can say to the thing before them to be enacted, that they likewise would influence the Gentlemen (of authority especially) in this his Government and dominion to be more tenderly affected to the Clergy, to encourage and support your Lordship's Commissary, and to continue the good parishes in their present condition, and amend the poor ones which are never like to be supplied with incumbents, at least that they would not make the state of the Church worse than it is or ever has been.

The prolixity and importunity of this address we hope your Lordship will pardon. It is a sad truth that we must declare that we have not one friend in the Province, except our Gov^r, to make our application to, nor any access to nor place nor employ in the Governm^t; no, nor friend in the world that we know of, but your Lordship, to stand by us, whose piety and goodness and tender care of the Church is now become everywhere so conspicuous, that we both can and do, with all confidence and cheerfulness, rely on them.

Your Lordship's prayers and blessing are the last and most valuable benefits that can be desired by

Your Lordship's most dutiful sons and servants,

THOMAS HOWELL,

ALEX^r ADAMS,

HEN. NICOLS,

ALEX^r WILLIAMSON,

THO^r THOMPSON,

DAN^r MAYNADIER,

JAMES WILLIAMSON.

Rev^d M^r. HENDERSON'S Visitation.

WESTERN SHORE OF MARYLAND,

4th December, 1717.

This day The Rev^d Jacob Henderson, Clerk, Master of Arts, Commissary to the Right Rev^d Father in God, John, Lord Bishop of London, preached a Sermon in Saint Ann's Parish Church, in the City of Annapolis, and immediately after Sermon begun the visitation of the said Commissary, Citations for the Clergy and Churchwardens of the s^d Shore, having duly and legally issued.

Then appeared John Gresham, Gentleman, Mayor of the City of Annapolis, and administered to the said Jacob Henderson the Oaths to the Government, and the oath for the due execution of his Office as Commissary. And also at the same time the said John Gresham administered to Bernard White the Oaths to the Govern^t, and oath for the due Execution of his Office as Registrar.

And likewise, at the same time, administered to Tho^s Macnamara, Esq^r, the oaths to the Government, and oath for the due execution of his Office as procurator of office.

M^r. William Head and Jno. Deacons, Churchwardens of St. Paul's Parish in Prince George's County, appeared and took the oath of Churchwardens, and had articles of Enquiry delivered them.

And then the said Commissary further adjourned, and continued his visitation till to-morrow morning, 11 o'clock.

THURSDAY MORNING, 5th Dec^r, 1717.

Then the s^d Commissary sat, and proceeded as follows:

The Rev^d M^r. Sam^l Skippon, Rector of St. Ann's Parish Church, in Ann Arundel County, appeared and produced his Letter of License, Letters of Orders, and Instrument of Presentation.

Bernard White & Rich^d Evans appeared, & were sworn Churchwardens of St. Ann's Parish, in Arundel County, and had Articles of enquiry delivered them.

The Parish of Westminster being vacant for want of an Incumbent, &

Mordecai Hammond, one of the Churchwardens of the said Parish, being legally cited, did not appear.

Hugh Merrikin, the other Churchwarden for the said Parish, appeared and took the oath, and had articles of Enquiry delivered him.

The Rev^d M^r. William Tibbs, Rector of St. Paul's Parish in Baltimore County, appeared, and is excused for not producing his Letters of Orders, Letter of License, and Instrument of Presentation, but ordered to have them at the next visitation; and also he is advised of a complaint made against him.

John Israel and Jno. Barrett, Churchwardens for the said Parish of Saint Paul's, were not cited by the Sheriff of Baltimore County, who undertook to do the same.

The Rev^d M^r. George Irvine, Rector of St. George's Parish, and of St. John's Parish in Baltimore County, appeared, and is excused for not exhibiting his Letters of Orders, Letter of License, and Instrument of Presentation, but advised to have them at the next visitation, and that he ought to have a dispensation for his holding of two parishes from the Ordinary.

The four Churchwardens of the two last-mentioned parishes are not cited by the Sheriff of Baltimore County, who undertook to do the same.

The Rev^d M^r. Joseph Colebatch, Rector of All Hallow's Parish, in Ann Arundel County, is excused for his not attending at the Visitation, being sick.

Edward Rumney and Francis Hardisty, Churchwardens for the said parish, appeared and took the oath of Churchwardens, & had Articles of Enquiry delivered them.

The Rev^d M^r. Henry Hall, Rector of St. James' Parish in Annarundel County, appeared, and promised to exhibit his Letters of Orders, Letter of License, and Instrument of Presentation (being at his Lodgings) to the Commissary for his perusal thereof.

Christopher Vernon, Churchwarden for the said Parish, is excused for not appearing, being sick.

Alexander Rosenquest, the other Churchwarden for the said Parish, appeared, and took the Oath, and had articles of Enquiry delivered him.

The Rev^d M^r. Thomas Cockshut, Rector of All Saints' Parish in Calvert County, appeared, and excused for not exhibiting his Letters of Orders, Letter of License, and Instrument of Presentation, but advised to have them at the next visitation.

Robert Wheeler and Robert Summers, Churchwardens, appeared and

took the Oath of Churchwardens for the s^d Parish of All Saints', and had articles of Enquiry deliver^d them.

The Rev^d Mr. Jonathan Cay, Rector of Christ Church, appeared, and exhibited his Letters of Orders, Letter of License, and Instrument of Presentation.

Thomas Burne, one of the Churchwardens for the s^d Parish, appeared, & took the Oath, and had articles of Enquiry delivered him.

William Bruce, the other Churchwarden for the said Parish, is excused for his not appearing, having sent sufficient reasons.

The Rev^d Mr. Jonathan White, Rector of Saint Barnabas' Parish in Prince George's County, is excused for his not appearing, being indisposed, and not very able to travel.

Peter Iliat & Jos. Brown, Churchwardens for the said Parish, appeared, and took the Oath, and had articles of Enquiry delivered them.

The Rev^d Mr. John Fraser, Rector of King George's Parish in Prince George's County, appeared, and produced his Letters of Ordination, and is excused for not producing his Letter of License and Instrument of Presentation, but advised to have them at the next visitation.

William Tyler, Churchwarden for the said Parish, is excused for not appearing, being sick. The other Churchwarden is dead, and another not yet chosen.

Mr. William Maconky, Rector of Port Tobacco and of Durham Parishes in Charles County, appeared, and is excused for not exhibiting his Letters of Orders, Letter of License, and Instrument of Presentation, but advised to have them at the next visitation, and that he ought to have a Dispensation from the Ordinary for holding of two Parishes.

Robert Sanders, Churchwarden for Durham Parish in the said County, appeared, & took the oath, and had articles of Enquiry delivered him.

John Martin and Joseph Thomas, Churchwardens for Port Tobacco Church, being legally cited, did not appear, because, as was offered in excuse, they were chose 4 years ago, and not last Easter, according to Law.

Barton Hungerford, Churchwarden for William & Mary's Parish in Charles County (being vacant), appeared, and is sworn, & had articles of Enquiry delivered him.

Thomas Dixon, Churchwarden for the said Parish, is excused for not appearing.

The Rev^d Mr. Robert Scott, Rector of All Faith's Parish in St. Mary's County, appeared, and is excused for not exhibiting his Letters of Orders,

Letter of License, and Instrument of Presentation, but advised to have them at the next visitation.

John Israel, Churchwarden for St. Paul's Parish in Baltimore County, being cited, did not appear. John Barrett, the other Churchwarden, is lately dead.

James Durham and Martin Taylor, Churchwardens for St. John's Parish in Baltimore County, appeared, took the oath of Churchwarden, and had articles of Enquiry delivered them.

Andrew Berry, one of the Churchwardens for St. George's Parish in the County afs^d, appeared, took the Oath of Churchwarden, & had art^d of Enquiry delivered him. Rowland Kimball, the other Churchwarden, neither appeared nor sent his excuse.

Christopher Vernon, one of the Churchwardens for St. James' Parish, in Annarundel County, appeared, but refused to take the office of Churchwarden.

William Bruce, Churchwarden Elect for Christ Church Parish in Calvert County, appeared, & alleged he was exempted from the Office of Churchwarden, being a Practitioner of Physick, and was excused.

The Rev^d Mr. William Tibbs, being cited to answer to Articles Exhibited against him on the Complaint of His Excellency the Governor, did not appear, but Evan Jones, Procurator, made himself party for him, & promised all proceedings should be held good, and that he should answer to the articles against next visitation.

The Rev^d Mr. Henry Hall appeared, & the Procurator of Office gave in Articles against him, which he prayed a Copy of, and a Copy was ordered him, to which he agreed to return answer by the 13th of March next.

Then came the Rev^d Mr. Thomas Cockshutt, and prayed to be admitted a Proctor, who was admitted, and took the oaths accordingly, and was constituted by the Rev^d Mr. Hall as his Proctor.

Then the Visitation was further adjourned and continued till Thursday, the 13th of March next, to the Church of St. Ann's, in the City of Annapolis afores^d, between the hours of 2 and 4 in the afternoon.

WESTERN SHORE OF MARYLAND,

Thursday, March 13th, 1717.

Then began the visitation which was adjourned & continued to this day.

The Rev^d Mr. Tibbs not appearing, nor his Proctor for him, was ordered

to be cited to appear against the first of May next, to answer to the Articles exhibited against him.

The Rev^d M^r. Thomas Cockshutt, Proctor for the Rev^d M^r. Hall, offered an Answer to the Articles exhibited against the s^d M^r. Hall, in presence of the Proctor of Office, who alleged the s^d Hall, being present, ought to make oath to the truth of the s^d answer and allegations therein contained, which he refused & alleged he was not thereto by Law obliged, on which the Comm^y adjourned the Visitation till the next morn^g, at nine o'clock, to consider of that matter.

FRIDAY MORNING, 14th March, 1717.

Then M^r. Hall's answer was received *Quatenus de jure*, in the presence of Tho^s Macnamara, Esq^r, Proctor of Office, who dissented to the admission thereof, as not sufficient.

The Commissary ordered the s^d Proctor to reply, or except to the s^d answer by the next visitation.

Then the Visitation was further adjourned & continued till the 1st day of May next, then to be held between the hours of 8 in the morning and 4 in the afternoon, in the Parish Church of St. Ann's afs^d.

Articles of Enquiry, according to the Rubricks of the Book of Common Prayer and other Ecclesiastical Laws now in force, for the help of the Churchwardens of every Parish on the Western Shore of Maryland in the Diocese of London, in the Visitation of the Rev^d Jacob Henderson, Commissary to the Right Rev^d Father in God, John, Lord Bishop of London, Anno Domini, 1717.

TIT. I.

Concerning Ministers, their Duties & Office.

First. Is your Minister of a Sober life and Conversation?

Secondly. Doth he instruct the Children and Youth of His Parish in the

Church Catechism, according to the Rubricks and Canons of the Church? Doth he confer with Popish Recusants & Sectaries, & endeavor to reclaim them to the true Religion established in the Church of England?

Thirdly. Doth he give notice of Holydays and fasting days? of the Lent fast, of the Ember days, of the 30th of January, 29th of May, and 5th of November; & are they religiously observed? Does he likewise read the Acts of Assembly against prophane cursing and swearing, drunkenness; and the other good Laws of this Province against Vice and immorality, four times a year?

Fourthly. Doth he administer the Holy Sacrament of the Lord's Supper so often that every parishioner may receive three times in the year, at least? and doth he give public warning thereof at Morning Prayer the Sunday before (by reading one of the Exhortations in the Book of Common Prayer) for the better preparation of the Parishioners?

Fifthly. Doth he read Divine Service at all times appointed, according to the Rubrick; or doth he vary from it, and wherein is he diligent in visiting the sick? Doth he refuse or delay to baptize any infant that is in danger of death? and are such infants, after recovery, brought to Church, & their baptisms certified to the Congregation? Doth he marry at any other times than between the hours of eight & twelve, or in any private house, or before their parents and Governors (the parties being under the age of 21 years) have testified their consents?

Sixthly. Doth he read the Canons and Constitutions, & the 39 Articles of our Church, that his Parishioners may the better understand them, and be made thoroughly acquainted with the Doctrine, Laws, and Usages of our Church?

TIT. II.

Concerning things pertaining to Churches.

First. Is your Church in good repair, decently and comely kept, as well within as without? Are the windows glazed, and are all things in decent and orderly sort for Divine Service? Have you a font set up at the lower end of your Church for the administration of the Sacrament of Baptism? Have you a convenient pew for your Minister to read Divine Service in? a pulpit with a decent Cloth and Cushion? a large Bible & the Book of Common Prayer? Have you likewise the Book of Homilies & a Table of Degrees, wherein unlawful marriage is forbidden? Have you also a decent Com-

munion Table? two coverings for it, one of rich silk stuff or fine Cloth, another of fine linen; with a plate or patten, and a Cup or Chalice of Silver? And have you a Surplice for your minister to wear at all times of his public ministration in the Church?

TIT. III.

Concerning Parishioners.

First. Is there any in your Parish that lieth under a Common fame or suspicion of adultery, fornication, or incest? Are there any Common Drunkards, Common Swearers or Blasphemers of God's holy Name, or other profane, loose, wicked persons? If there are any such, you are to present them.

Secondly. Do your Parishioners frequent the Church on Sundays and Holydays? Do they behave themselves reverently in that holy place? Do they devoutly kneel when the Confession, the Ten Commandments, and all Prayers and Collects are read? Do they stand up at the Creeds? And, lastly, do they use due and lowly reverence when they hear the name of the Blessed Jesus? or do any walk and talk, or go out and in during the time of Divine Service? If there are any such, you are to present them.

Thirdly. Is there any person in your Parish of the age of 16 years who does not receive the Blessed Sacrament of the Lord's Supper three times a year, at least, of which Easter is always to be one? and do your Parishioners observe the Lord's Day in all soberness & Godly conversation? or do any of them loiter & idle that day at home? If any such, present them.

Fourthly. Are there any within your Parish that neglect or refuse to send their Children and Servants to be catechized by your Minister on Sundays and Holydays?

TIT. IV.

Concerning Church Officers.

Are your Churchwardens yearly chosen on Easter Monday? Have you a Parish Clerk Chosen by your Minister? Is he a person of a sober life and conversation? Doth he duly attend his Office, & is he licensed by the Ordinary?

TIT. V.

Concerning Schoolmasters.

First. What Schoolmasters have you in your Parish? Are they persons of Sober Life & Conversation? Are they licensed by the Ordinary? Do

they teach their Scholars the Church Catechism? and do they duly and regularly bring them to Church on Sundays & Holydays?

Secondly. Has your Vestry any Stock of Tobacco in their Hands? do they employ it to such uses as the Law of this Province directs?

If you know anything else of Ecclesiastical Cognizance, and fit to be reformed by Ecclesiastical censure, though it be not particularly expressed in these Articles, yet you shall likewise present the same, by virtue of your oaths.

CHURCHWARDEN'S OATH.

You shall swear to enquire with your best diligence, and to make a true answer unto every article in this Book now given you in charge, and to present every person that now is, or of late was inhabiting within your Parish, that hath done any offence, or omitted any duty therein mentioned; and this you shall do as in the sight of God, uprightly & truly, without favour or malice, hope of reward or fear of displeasure. So help you God.

Lord BALTIMORE to the Bishop of London's Commis- saries.

March 23rd, 1718.

REV^d GENT^l,

Having received intimation from one of your Brethren in Maryland, as if Arts were made use of to induce the Clergy of my Province to believe that too much encouragement was by me given to Roman Catholics, than which nothing is more contrary to truth, as is visible by my actions; yet to show the great regard I pay to your order and to the Commission you bear from the Right Reverend the Lord Bishop of London under my Government, I have thought fit to assure you that I have nothing more at heart than the Protestant Establishment, & that I will do all that in me lies to encourage and favor the Church of England as by Law established, which, I trust, you will communicate to your Brethren. I am, Rev^d Gentlemen,

Your most humble Serv^t,
BALTIMORE.

*The Bishop of London to Mr. HENDERSON.*April 15th, 1718.REV^d BROTHER,

I am sensibly grieved to have any complaints made me from Maryland of one to whom I had entrusted all the cares which concern me in a great part of that province, and to find that while M^r. Wilkinson and his Brethren are in concert promoting their common good and the interests of Religion, at the visitations on your side of the Bay such misunderstandings should arise as must tend both to the disturbance of the Church and the prejudice of yourselves. But so it is, that I have representations of my Commissary's conduct at those meetings very much to his disadvantage, both from the Governor, whom I have great reason to have an esteem for, and from the greatest part of the Clergy, who complain of his assembling them together at unseasonable times of the year, but especially of ill-treating, and very unwillingly enter into particulars, but cannot but observe to you that your demand upon M^r. Hall, of Synadodals and Procurations, is not to be supported, being without precedent either in your or any other Colony, and the detaining his orders under pretence of that right is what I cannot approve of; that any disrespect shewn your Government on that or other occasions, appears an improper way to support my authority, which I verily believe M^r. Hart is at no time disposed carelessly to oppose. You were formerly of the same sentiment with regard to him, & should be glad means might be found to make both of you return to the mutual good opinion you once had of each other.

I assure you I am in no way inclined to receive impressions in your disfavor, but well hope the bare mention of these things, which I am under a necessity of making to you, will produce the same good effect another Letter of mine had on the like occasions, a reconciliation between you and the Governor, as also a perfect agreement amongst yourselves. This satisfaction I promise myself you will give me when you write next. I shall only now add to you that M^r. Tibbs' misbehaviour and neglect of duty is among the matters of complaint. I must earnestly recommend to you to take fit measures to reclaim him; to correct the faulty will answer one of the best purposes of your Commission. I commend you to God's protection, and, in confidence

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that you will endeavor to set all these matters right in a manner that becomes you, am, Sir,

Your assured friend & Brother.

Bishop of London to Mr. HART.

April 16, 1718.

SIR,

I am very sorry to find by your last Letter that you have been so ill used by my Commissary, one who has such particular obligations, as I am convinced the Clergy in general have many to treat you with the utmost respect. I assure you, Sir, he shall never be encouraged, under the pretence of supporting my authority, to make so ill an use of the powers I gave him, purely upon your recommendation. I have wrote to him in terms that will, I hope, induce him to explain himself in such manner as will give you content. If I have dealt with him more tenderly than the occasion required, It is that he may not have cause to complain of being condemned unheard, and out of a desire to have the grievances complained of, if possible, redressed without a violent remedy. However, if he still persist in being disrespectful to you, and troublesome to his Brethren, I shall take proper measures to give you full satisfaction, as also Mr. Hall, whose character I am so well pleased with, that I am concerned with you to have removed him to make way for a person whose conduct has been so obnoxious.

I beg you to continue your good dispositions towards the Clergy, and for the service of Religion, and that you will believe I am in no grain about my jurisdiction in Maryland, while the Government of it remains in your hands.

I am with the greatest esteem,

Sir, &c.

*Governor HART'S Speeches to the Clergy, and their
Address.*

April 25th, 1718.

REV^d GENTLEMEN,

On my first arrival from Great Britain I convened the Rev^d body of the Clergy, to be advised of the state and condition of the Church of England in this Province, to which I was prompted, not only by the duty of my station, but also by a zealous inclination to promote, as much as in me lay, the propagation of our holy Religion, for which pious & laudable end you are missionaries here.

I had not long resided here before experience showed me the necessity of having some Rev^d persons, empowered by the Right Rev^d the Lord Bishop of London (our Diocesan) for the better Government of the Church in this Province. This obliged me to remonstrate that defect to his Lordship, who had the goodness not only to approve of my remonstrance, but even condescended to appoint for his Lordship's Commissarys those two Rev^d Gentlemen whom I undertook the liberty to nominate for that purpose.

I find there are several difficulties in the execution of the Rev^d Commissary's Commissions, which, in good measure, is owing to the Constitution of the Province, and the natural Situation of the Country, filled with great Rivers and Creeks, which renders it impracticable to put the Ecclesiastical Canons in full force, as it is much to be wished they might be, as well here as in England. To remove all which obstructions you are now called together, and upon your representation of them you may be assured of my hearty concurrence in anything it is proper for me to do in my station, that may be of use and benefit to the Church of England in this Province; and if there be any other grievances which the Clergy in general or particular may labor under, I would recommend to them this public Season of the Sitting of the Assembly, as most proper that whatever they have to offer may be presented to those who have power to redress them.

I am heartily grieved to hear how much the Jesuits and other Popish Emissaries have prevailed, by their insinuating arts, upon the weak and ignorant; how many they are, and how vigilant in gaining proselytes, and seducing the unwary; and I hope your vigilance, zeal, and actual application to the great

charge you have taken upon you will not only regain such as have been lost, but also add daily to the fold such as shall be saved.

Rev^d Gent^l Commissarys, The methods of mildness and gentleness are in themselves so endearing, that I hope I need not recommend them to you in the execution of the Right Rev^d his Lordship's Commissions, and I am glad upon this occasion to tell you that, by a view I have lately had of a Letter from his Lordship, I find my opinion confirmed by his authority.

Rev^d Gentlemen, I do earnestly recommend to you to carry on your proceedings with that unity and brotherly love as may demonstrate you the disciples of the Prince of peace and concord.

JOHN HART.

To His Excellency JOHN HART, Esq., Captain-General and Commander-in-Chief, &c.

The Humble Address of the Commissarys and Clergy of this Province in Convention assembled.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY:

We, the Commissarys and Clergy of Maryland in Convention assembled, beg leave to return you our unfeigned and hearty thanks for your most pious and excellent speech yesterday delivered to us, and we are glad of the occasion to testify to the world what deep sense we have always entertained of your Excellency's goodness and favor to us, and zealous inclinations for the propagation of our most holy Religion.

As your Excellency's zeal always prompted you to do whatever in you lay for the advantage and interest of the Church of England, so in a particular manner we think ourselves under an obligation of gratitude for your Excellency's early care of the better Government thereof, expressed in the nomination of the two Reverend Gentlemen who now act as Commissarys to the Right Rev^d Ffather in God, John, Lord Bishop of London, our Diocesan, from whose prudent care and inspection we hope to reap all the advantage proposed and designed by your Excellency.

Your Excellency's concern for removing all such difficulties, as through the situation of the Country, and the Constitution of the Province, may any way affect the execution of his Lordship's Commissions, is another argument how much you have the interest of the Church at heart, as your care for

redressing any other grievances which the Clergy in general or particular may labor under, is an undoubted testimony of your affection to her Ministers. 'Tis true we cannot hope to see the Ecclesiastical Canons put in full force here, as they are in England, though we heartily join with your Excellency in your wishes that they might be so. Yet, as we have seen already things obtained for us, by your Excellency's means, beyond our expectation, so we may hope for much greater, if by God's providence we shall be long happy under your Government. But we should think ourselves inexcusable if, in the proposal of means for the obtaining of those pious ends, we should offer anything which might be thought improper for your Excellency to do in your station.

The progress of Popery in this province, as it affects us with the deepest sorrow, so it sufficiently prompts us to diligence and circumspection in the discharge of our functions, especially when by the success we may judge of the number and vigilance of those Emissarys, who go about practising their insinuating arts, and seducing the unwary and ignorant; and, as to ourselves, we hope that our vigilance, zeal, and application to the great charge we have taken upon us will be effectual, by God's blessing, to the reclaiming of such as have gone astray, and the establishment of such as are at present firm. But we leave it to your Excellency's wisdom to think of such methods as shall be effectual to the restraint of such pernicious practices for the future.

Your Excellency's earnest exhortation to peace and unity among ourselves, as it shows us your tender regard for the true interest and prosperity of our most holy religion, so also is it a distinguishing mark of your Excellency's esteem and veneration for the sacred function, which is not to be maintained in credit in the world but by those Evangelistical methods so ardently recommended by your Excellency. And we beg leave to assure your Excellency that we hope, by the Unanimity of our proceedings, the quick dispatch of business, and happy conclusion of this Convention, to make it appear that we have behaved ourselves as the Disciples of the Prince of peace and concord.

REV^d GENTLEMEN,

I take myself to be highly obliged to your venerable body for the kind sentiments you have expressed of my administration, and shall esteem it as my greatest felicity to be capable of promoting the welfare & maintaining the just rights and privileges of our holy Church in this province.

I shall be far from thinking it improper in you to advise me (with the con-

sent of the Rev^d Commissary) by what methods you shall conceive those obstructions may be removed, by which my Lord Bishop of London's Commissary may be any way impeded in the execution of them, and must desire you to speak your thoughts with freedom.

Effectual measures, I hope, will be taken to put a stop to that pernicious practice of perverting the weak and ignorant to the Romish superstition.

I am filled with great joy at the happy prospect you have of a good agreement amongst yourselves. I pray God nothing may ever more interrupt it.

J. HART.

Proposals for the more effectual executing the Lord Bishop of London's Commissions :

1st. That his Lordship's authority and jurisdiction be recognized by the Assembly.

2^{dly}. That something be allowed for the support and maintenance of a Register.

3^{rdly}. That Orders be given to the several Sheriffs to serve Citations in their respective Counties, and to return Certificates of their executing of them.

4^{thly}. That Churchwardens may be allowed their necessary expences for attending visitations.

5^{thly}. That a free passage may be allowed to both Clergy & Churchwardens over Rivers & Creeks.

Clergy to the Bishop of London.

May 8th, 1718.

WE, your dutiful Sons the Clergy of the Western Shore of the Province of Maryland, beg leave to acquaint your Lordship that, notwithstanding what we have represented to your Lordship upon a former occasion with relation to the conduct of your Lordship's Commissary, the Rev^d M^r. Jacob Henderson, we do now with the greatest joy imaginable signify to your Lordship that those unhappy differences are amicably adjusted amongst us, and we

persuade ourselves, and may venture to assure your Lordship, from the Rev^d M^r. Commissary's present good management and prudent behavior in the exercise of your Lordship's jurisdiction, as well as from our own natural disposition, that nothing for the future, from him or us, shall be able to interrupt or disturb that peace and unanimity which is now so happily settled among us.

We are, May it please your Lordship,

Your Lordship's most ob^t & dutiful

Sons & Servants,

SAM^l SKIPPON, Rector of St. Ann's.

WIL. MACHONCHIE, Rector of Deerham.

Rev. CHRIST^r WILKINSON to the Bishop of London.

CHESTER RIVER IN QUEEN ANN'S COUNTY, MARYLAND,

May 26th, 1718.

RIGHT HON^{ble} & RIGHT REV^d FATHER IN GOD,

After I had received your Lordship's of the 7th of October last, I advised first with the Clergy, and after that with His Excellency, who unanimously thought that a recognition of your Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction here would very much facilitate the execution of your Commissions. I was very desirous to have advised with M^r. Henderson, but could not obtain it, though I requested it several times. His Excellency, intending to call the Assembly, acquainted me with his resolution, and ordered me to summons the Clergy to meet at the City of Annapolis, and accordingly we met there on the 24th of April last.

I have herewith sent His Excellency's Speech and our address, and can assure you that His Excellency and the Council very heartily espoused and very honorably asserted your Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction. I wish I could say the same of the lower house, and that some of our Clergy had not contributed privately to prevent it. For if I may, as I have just grounds to believe, some Members of the house who told me that several of the Clergy were as averse to the establishment of your jurisdiction as any of their house were, and had alleged to them that it was tyrannical, and would be a means to drive people

from the Church to the Roman Catholics and Quakers. This, with the unhappy differences betwixt your Commissary and the Clergy of the Western Shore, hath at present (in my opinion) prevented the establishment of it. It is not, I must confess, thrown out of the house, but remains to be considered by the next assembly. It would be improper in me to concern myself in the differences of the Western Shore. Your Lordship (I understand) has an account of it sent from the Clergy, who best know how things were managed; but I think fit to acquaint your Lordship that their proceedings there have very much prejudiced ours here, and the people are mightily startled with the apprehensions of great fear, which some that are enemies to our Constitution have endeavored to possess them with. And I shall take the liberty to say that M^r. Henderson's late conduct in his freedom of conversation with the Romans, and some unguarded expressions dropt from him, and joining with those who are enemies to the Governor, have not only rendered him suspected to be inclined that way, but makes many others to think him an unfit person to execute your Lordship's authority.

I am apt to believe that M^r. Skippon will remove in a short time from the Church in Annapolis, in New England, and if your Lordship thinks fit to supply that Church with a Clergyman whose abilities may qualify him to exercise your jurisdiction with more judgment than either of us can be presumed to do it, I, for my part, will take it as a particular favor, and in the meantime shall use my utmost endeavors in the management of the powers you have entrusted me with, as to give no just occasion of complaint, or to render them frightful to the people.

At our last visitation the Churchw^{an} made several presentments. One was of M^r. Bayly (a Clergyman lately come from the Western to our Shore in Somerset), for his excessive drinking, quarrelling, and swearing, and I am very well informed that his behaviour hath been very irregular for several years past. I have cited him to appear in July next to answer the articles exhibited against him, and shall follow the instructions of my Commission. A second is of an incestuous marriage, & a third of a woman supposed to have a Child by her father-in-Law. Others are for crimes of another nature, and which, I hope, may be corrected and amended by admonition and reproof. An objection (I understand) was made in the house of assembly that penalties were provided by the laws made in this province against most of the crimes cognizable in your Court, and that it would be hard to punish twice for the

same fault. The reply was that the Ecclesiastical punishments were not corporeal or pecuniary, and did not interfere with those of the temporal Courts.

I should be very unjust to our Governor should I not acquaint your Lordship with what zeal and earnestness he endeavored to have your jurisdiction established by a Law, and how much he was concerned at the disappointment of it. He laid before the House his instructions, and urged the necessity, the benefit and advantage of the establishment of your authority with such prudent and persuasive arguments as shewed him (what I always believed him) to be a sincere and hearty friend to our Church and the Protestant Religion; and should he be removed from us (as the Papists and Popishly affected persons do endeavor it), I fear it will prove very fatal to both.

I should be ungrateful also to the Rev^d M^r. Nicholls (my next neighbouring Clergyman), who was requested by His Excellency to preach at the Assembly of the Clergy, if I did not acquaint you with what approbation his Sermon met from His Excellency and both houses, and that they returned him thanks in writing by members sent from each house.

Your Lordship will, I hope, pardon me that I presume to tell you that 'tis my opinion that the Churches now vacant had better continue so than to be filled with men from the Scotch Universitys, who usually come young, raw, and undisciplined, tainted with Presbyterian principles, and no real friends to our Episcopal Government. Their conduct at our last meeting here has confirmed what I have always had of the generality of them, that necessity, not choice, has induced them to seek for preferment among us. I wish I could meet with more instances than I have hitherto done to change my sentiments.

I have nothing more to add but this, that, if it lay in your Lordship's power to continue our good government among us, by doing that you would very much oblige our Church and province, and, I may justly add, promote the proprietor's interest. I beg your Lordship's directions in the future management of the Commission, so long as you think fit to continue it to me, and some few Books to direct us in our proceedings, and that you would be pleased to give your Blessing and prayers to

Your most dutiful Son

and Servant,

CHRIS. WILKINSON.

P. S.—By enquiry I understand that the Commissary in Virginia does

nothing at all in the executing his Commiss^a, & besides him I hear of no other.

I have enjoined the observ^{ce} of the Canon relating to Marriages till your Lordship's pleasure be known, and have restrained the Clergy from marrying at private houses for several inconven^t, but especially because some Clergy-men have been complained of for being drunk at such times & places.

JACOB HENDERSON to the Bishop of London.

June 17th, 1718.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR LORDSHIP,

I am extremely honored by your Lordship's of the 5th of October last, by M^r. Falconar, and I confess that I was much surprised that I should misunderstand your Lordship in one of your former, that of the 14th of March, 1718, wherein your Lordship commanded me to set about executing the powers of my Commission. By this I understood you enjoined me to set up a Court in form, and indeed the long delay that happened through the opposition I met with made me fear that I should incur your displeasure on that account. And now that your Lordship has been pleased to signify to me that you would not have me set up a Court in form, which I had done before the receipt of the last, and, as I thought, agreeable to the former, as I fully set forth to your Lordship in mine of the 17th of December last, I am afraid I have given cause for your Lordship to be displeased on the other side, but I hope your Lordship will please to pardon this mistake, since it was not wilful, but rather with intention to comply with your Lordship's commands, and especially since I forbore to proceed further upon the receipt of your last, and that no trouble has been given to any lay person by reason of offending against the jurisdiction.

I have been most happy, not only as above, but in having been supposed here to have been in earnest in setting up your Lordship's jurisdiction, that made me the object of both our Gov^r's malice and jealousy. He could neither flatter nor caress me out of it, nor was I so weak as ever to communicate any of your Lordship's Letters to him, though often solicited to it, and large prom-

ises made me to get an Act of Assembly to support it. I knew his inclinations better, & that an application for such an Act would rather weaken and discredit the jurisdiction by the ill success it would meet withall among our Legislators. All this I communicated to your Lordship by my last, but it was too late to hinder such an application, for the Commissary on the Eastern shore, after some consultations with the Gov', procured Orders from him for a Meeting of the whole Clergy on both Eastern and Western Shores, pursuant to which they met at the time of the Assembly, and the Commissary produced a Letter from your Lordship, wherein you left it to his discretion whether he would apply for such a Law or not. I was much threatened that, if I did not join in such application, it would not be made without me, so, without any previous knowledge of the design, without the Clergy's being acquainted with it beforehand, or so much as any time allowed for them to prepare the Members of Assembly in their respective Parishes, or influencing them with the reasonableness of it, an application was hurried on, and, what I always suspected was the consequence, to be rejected. The Governor pretends it is still under consideration, but it is plain it is rejected, and the reasons for it are taken from your Lordship's own Letter, which was very indiscreetly communicated as soon as received to everybody. Indeed, my good Lord, I never knew an affair of so much consequence transacted with so much folly in all my life, and when I told M^r. Wilkinson it would miscarry, & desired him to consider better of it, he said the Gov' had interest enough to carry it, and he was sure he did not want inclination, and his intimate friend, M^r. Nicholls, said If I did not join in it, and it should miscarry, the fault would be laid on me. All this obliged me to concur with them, against my judgment, lest your Lordship should be made believe that I was not hearty in the affair.

And as they thus drew me in to join in such application, so they told me it was necessary, in order to succeed, that I should lay aside the prosecution I had on foot against M^r. Henry Hall, Rector of Saint James's, for threatening your Lordship, & most audaciously contemning your authority and the exercise of it, and for giving much scandal by Drunkenness. This, they said, would very much influence the Assembly against the Jurisdiction, if not put up, so, to take off any occasion, I desired he might profess his sorrow for the offence he had given, and make his submission to your Lordship, and the prosecution should be laid aside, which he refused, but offered to refer that to four Clergymen, Mess^{rs}. Alexander Williamson, James Williamson, Richard Sewell,

and George Ervin, to which I agreed, and they gave their opinions that he should ask pardon for the words against your Lordship and your Jurisdiction; but he would not, but drew up a remonstrance to the Assembly, complaining of your Lordship's Jurisdiction, and representing it as a grievance to the Country, and threatened to prefer it, if I did not stop the proceedings against him without any submission; to which the Clergy all advised me, lest it should any ways hinder the effect of our application, for which reason I took their advice, lest the miscarriage should be imputed to me. Inclosed is a Copy of the Articles against the said M^r. Hall, and I could have proved every one of them, had I not been drawn in to pass the prosecution. And after all these compliances our application miscarried; indeed, the Governor was not in earnest. He thinks he has both pleased your Lordship by pretending he has used his endeavors, and himself in that it miscarried.

But he was mighty earnest to have the matter against M^r. Hall stopped, and this was the proper time to threaten me out of it. M^r. Hall and M^r. Thomas Cockshutt have most scandalously gone about the Country here raising a faction against my Lord Baltimore, telling people he is a Roman Catholic, and they offered to the Clergy a petition to your Lordship, to endeavour to have the Government taken from him and given to the Governor, which the Clergy refused to be concerned in, but this they knew would wonderfully please him, for he is now playing his old Game against that noble Lord, and representing him and his Guardian, the Lord Guilford, to be Papists; and, in short, has set the whole country in a Ferment here with the cry of Danger from the Papists. There is not in reality the least Danger from them, but M^r. Hall, being very serviceable to him in these purposes, makes him very dear to him.

Now, my Good Lord, I have faithfully acquainted you from time to time how matters have gone with respect to the jurisdiction here, and as there is no hopes of an Act of Assembly to support it, and your Lordship has been pleased to order me not to set up a Court in form, I have faithfully obeyed ever since the receipt of your Lordship's Letter, and my only endeavours for the future shall be to keep a decorum amongst the Clergy.

What I suspected in my last about a representation of the Clergy against me I find now to be true. Four of them have confessed it, and are very sorry for it. Inclosed is a letter from them to your Lordship to quite contrary purposes. Some of them told me how much they were solicited to it by the

Governor, and that they durst not well deny it. Such practices as these are very scandalous, but what can I expect when he does not spare his best Friend, my Lord Baltimore? I hope, both from your Lordship's goodness and justice, an account of what is alleged against me, that I may be able to give your Lordship full satisfaction of my conduct.

This has the honor to be conveyed by M^r. Edward Calvert, Brother to my Lord Baltimore, who will wait on your Lordship, and who can better inform you of affairs here than I can in so short a Letter; and yet presume not to give your Lordship further trouble, well knowing you have much of this kind. I humbly beg your Lordship's prayers for

May it please your Lordship,

Your most dutiful Son

and humble Servant,

JACOB HENDERSON.

*JACOB HENDERSON to the Rev^d D^r. FRANCIS
ASTRY.*

(EXTRACT.)

June 17, 1718.

You will perceive by my letter to his Lordship how affairs go here, and what fortune our application to the Assembly for a Law to support the Jurisdiction was attended withall. I believe you know my thoughts of such application by my last. One third of the Assembly are Dissenters, and the other two very low. They opposed the Governor much when he was Governor under Her Majesty Queen Anne (of Blessed memory), but they are now his Creatures, and the party at present that he caresses and is supported by; and how was it likely such a Law should be procured? The Jurisdiction, in my opinion, has lost more by such application than it will gain here in a long time. The Country are now made to believe that it cannot take place without such a Law, and they believe it, too, with a great deal of pleasure.

I understand that the Governor has made some complaints against me to

his Lordship, as likewise the Clergy. I hope, from his Lordship's Justice and goodness, an account of what is alleged, and I no less depend on your candour to forward it.

The Bishop of London to Commissary WILKINSON.

August 25th, 1718.

REV^d BROTHER,

I received your Letter of the 15th of April, with the particulars inclosed of what passed in your last Assembly relating to my jurisdiction. I find great reason to be thankful to your Governor for the part he took in that affair, from the concern he then expressed to have it recognized, and the readiness he always shews on all occasions to promote the interest of the Established Church. I have ground to hope that, notwithstanding your proposals for that intent were not complied with, there may one time by his influence a way be opened for you to answer all the good purposes of your Commission. However, by those cases you have entered into, and the requisite temper and prudence you proceed with, I have the pleasure of seeing some of those ends to a degree already obtained. To enjoin the observance of the Canon relating to Marriages, in order to prevent incest, I cannot conceive to be liable to any cavil; and as for M^r. Bayly's misbehaviour, and the scandal marrying in private houses has been the occasion of, these are matters, I persuade myself, none among the Clergy, whom only they concern, will dispute your cognizance of. I am concerned any of the obstructions laid in your way should appear to have come from [this] quarter. If the disagreement between M^r. Henderson and his Brethren on the Western Shore, or his late Carriage towards your Governors, have contributed to the ill success of your endeavors, I am not without hopes that what I have wrote to him concerning that subject will have that intended effect, produce a reconciliation, and dispose him to act in concert with you hereafter.

For the rest, since there are objections lie against the exercise of powers arising or pretending to arise from your Constitution, and real difficulties attending it on account of the situation of the Country, as yet unremoved, I would advise that you would act with caution and reserve; the opposition

you have met with, and the terrors some have, however, groundlessly suggested, make such caution to be the more necessary. I shall not doubt but you will make the Commission as useful as you can consistently with the Laws of the Colony and the case of all concerned, and therefore hope you will not think of resigning it into any other hand.

I have only farther to recommend to you in all your steps to take the Governor along with you. We have the greatest assurance of his good disposition towards us and for the service of religion. I hear with a great deal of satisfaction that M^r. Nicolls' performance was so well approved of, and am always glad when any of the Clergy gain credit and esteem. I commend you all to God's grace and protection, and am,

Rev^d Sir,
Your assured friend & affectionate
Brother,
JOHN LONDON.

Rev. JACOB HENDERSON to the Bishop of London.

MARYLAND, Sept^r 4th, 1718.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR LORDSHIP,

I have not to add to the several I wrote to your Lordship about your Jurisdiction, save the inclosed Copy of the proceedings of the Visitation I held, from time continued and adjourned. Your Lordship will receive them by the hands of Tho^s Macknamara, Esq^r, Proctor of Office, to whom I beg leave to refer your Lordship for a full account of all affairs here.

I have several things of moment with relation to your jurisdiction that cannot well be committed to writing, besides some other affairs require my going for England. I humbly beg your Lordship's leave to come next Spring, and that you would signify it to our Governor, and that it is your pleasure my parish should be kept entire for me till my return, which shall be as quick as possible, for I am apprehensive they will divide it in my absence, and it will not bear a division yet. I shall procure it to be served, in my absence, by the

neighbouring Clergy, so that there will be little detriment to the Church. I hope from your Lordship's goodness that you will grant my request, and believe that I am, with the greatest deference,

Your Lordship's most dutiful Son
and most humble Servant,
JACOB HENDERSON.

The Bishop of London to Mr. HENDERSON.

Sept' 9th, 1718.

REV^d BROTHER,

Yours dated December 17th came not to me till last week. I had some time before received, with a deal of concern, some of those complaints you imagine would be made against you for answer, to which I refer you to my Letter wrote in Aug. last upon the subject of them, and for my sentiments. Concerning a Seal of office and table of fees I refer you to M^r. Ffalconar, with whom I had discourse about your erecting a Court.

I am heartily sorry to have complaints that either affect your Gov^r or yourself, having been always inclined to believe both of you act uprightly, and I am still satisfied if all that is personal between you were laid aside your proceedings would tend to the advantage of the Church and the benefit of the Colony. Indeed, I can [not] easily enter into a belief that M^r. Hart does anything with design to affront my authority. I rather think his proceeding at your late Assembly an evidence of the contrary, for though you with reason apprehend that it might have the appearance of giving up my jurisdiction to subject it to a debate in your Assemblies, yet, as the steps then taken were only to facilitate and make effectual that jurisdiction acknowledged on the part of the Governor, and the methods proposed by him, such as I conceive could not have been pursued without an Act of Assembly. This gives that matter another face.

As for the proper power to license Readers and grant Dispensations for plurality of Livings, I cannot well judge of it, having not seen the act on which you found my claim thereunto, nor determine anything till I hear the Governor upon that head, who, you say, has the possession of that right.

Upon the whole, I wish you would mutually forget all past heats, and that you would be desirous of standing in the same good esteem of M^r. Hart which he formerly had for you. I persuade myself you may yet be reconciled to him upon fair terms, and the more earnestly recommend this to you for that I look upon it to be the only means whereby the good purposes of my jurisdiction can be in any degree answered. For as it is to take place in the Colonies only so far as conveniently can be, and to judge of that convenience will be always very much in the several Governors at least, I have reason to fear, without their concurrence, what may be undertaken with the best views in this Regard will, for the most part, fail of its effect, especially in matters where the laity are affected. I do very much believe all your endeavours proceed from a good intention, & should be very sorry any such should miscarry for want of that conduct which only can direct them to their end. I commend you to God's protection, and am,

Rev^d Sir,
Your assured friend & affect^o Bro^r,
J. L.

Vestrymen of Allhallows to the Bishop of London.

Aug^t 1st, 1719.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR LORDSHIP:

My Lord,—The Parish of Allhallows in Somerset County, in Maryland, hav^g never enjoyed the great blessing of a constant or inducted Minister since the Establishm^t of the Church of Engl^d in the province, except about 2 years we had M^r. Wilkinson, who was sent over to us by the late Lord Bishop of London upon our petition to his Lordship, but a vacancy happening in another parish, about fourscore miles distant from us, something more valuable than ours, he left us as destitute as before. Now, seeing the constant abode of a Dissenting Minister amongst us is likely to alienate the people (being, alas! as a sheep with^t a Shepherd) from the communion of the Church, we, the Vestry of the said Parish, after having bought a Glebe of near 400 acres of rich land, with a good dwelling-house, an apple orchard and peach orchard of 1,000 trees, besides above 20,000lbs weight of Tobacco

yearly revenue, not accounting perquisites, do long for a spiritual pastor. Having tried several methods to obtain one, all failing, we humbly conceive it our duty to represent to your Lordship's consideration our misery through the long continuance of the famine or scarcity of the Word of God in our Church. Now, your Lordship's speedy help and supply in sending a Godly Clergyman toward supporting the sinking Church and the Salvation of the Souls of your poor desolate people is most earnestly desired and prayed for by, my Lord, your Lordship's

Most humble, indigent people,

JOHN PURNELL & others.

*Rev. CHRISTOPHER WILKINSON to the Bishop of
London.*

May 18, 1720.

RIGHT REV^d FATHER IN GOD,

Though I have received no Letters from your Lordship this year, yet I could not omit writing by our Governor, whose departure I heartily lament. He has zealously espoused your Lordship's authority and the interest of the Church in this Province, and will best inform your Lordship of our not succeeding in obtaining the recognition of your Episcopal Jurisdiction according to your desire and our endeavors.

I am in hopes your Lordship will supersede me in the Commission by another better qualified to act herein. However, I shall proceed till then with the utmost caution I can, because I know very well every step I take therein will be narrowly watched to find occasion for complaints. The greatest discouragement I have is the loss of our Gov^r, with whom I always advised, and who was ever ready to assist & encourage my proceedings, & has deserved much better treatment than he has met with from some who were as nearly concerned as myself to promote your authority, of whom your Lordship will receive a full character.

I am sorry to acquaint your Lordship that M^r. Howell has, since my last writing to you, been generally of such irregularity as not only opened the

mouths of his enemys, but silenced his very friends, nay, moved them to complain of him, for which he has been admonished by me & some of my Brethren.

His Excellency will acquaint your Lordship with the state of our Church, & what most hinders the execution of y^r Commiss^a in this Province. I beg your Lordship's blessing, and am

Your Lordship's most obed^t Serv^t,

CH. WILKINSON.

Mr. Commissary HENDERSON to the Clergy of Maryland.

May 20th, 1720.

REV^d BRETHREN,

It is reported you are at this time invited hither to consult upon things of an extraordinary nature. So soon as I was apprised thereof I hasted to Town to offer you my assistance, especially if there be anything under your consideration that may in any way affect religion, or the promotion of the true interests of our Church in this Province.

As I am well satisfied that nothing of that kind can be regularly intended without notice to me, your diocesan's Commissary on this shore, so I hope none of you are inclined to deviate so much from the discipline of the Church and our own characters as to be led into any resolution upon affairs of that nature without consulting me.

We have sufficient assurance from our noble Lord, the Proprietary, of his utmost zeal & regard for our holy religion. My Rev^d Brother, M^r. Wilkinson, & I have gratefully answered his Lordship's letter, but have not as yet opportunity to communicate it to our Rev^d Brethren in a Body. I therefore submit it to you whether it may not be proper for us, at this time, to consider our duty thereupon.

I pray God nothing but the true interest of the Protestant Religion, as established here, may be the subject of the present deliberation, which no man alive can enter into with more truth and sincerity than I am disposed to do; with more steadiness and unbiassed resolution, as should be the distin-

guishing badge of our profession ; and with more tenderness and brotherly affection, as I am sincerely,

JACOB HENDERSON.

The Clergy of Maryland to Mr. Commissary HENDERSON.

May 20th, 1720.

M^r. COMMISSARY,

We cannot but with gratitude acknowledge your care in offering us your assistance in such affairs as you was informed were under our consideration, which might any way affect religion or the promotion of the true interests of our Church in this Province. This is nothing more than what might justly be expected from your character, and the zeal you have always expressed for our most holy Religion, which we doubt not you will always endeavour to promote with truth & sincerity, with steadiness and unbiassed resolution, as become the sacred character, and with tenderness and brotherly affection.

We all of us bear so great a regard to our diocesan, the Lord Bishop of London, as well as to the person of his Commissary, & are so firmly attached to the doctrine and discipline of the Church of which we have the honor to be Ministers, that we are not, nor ever were, inclined to deviate therefrom, nor shall we, we trust, be led into any resolution upon any affairs of that nature contrary thereto.

As we have not hitherto departed from the discipline of the Church or our own characters, so neither was it the intent of our meeting at this time to consult upon things of an extraordinary nature, nor were we invited hither upon any such account. Our Meeting was altogether voluntary upon the score of that duty which we conceive lay upon us, to take leave of his Excellency our Governor before his departure from the Province, and to acknowledge the favors he had, from time to time, conferred upon us, which, we hope, cannot be accounted a thing of an extraordinary nature.

Besides this we have consulted upon nothing, except that we have drawn up a short Letter to his Lordship, our Diocesan, which we are ready to com-

municate to your Reverence, when you shall please to require it, and which we promise ourselves will not be interpreted a reflection upon any person whatsoever, or any contempt of his Lordship's Commission; and we doubt not your Reverence's concurrence with us therein upon perusal thereof.

We have perused his Lordship's the Lord Proprietary's Letter to your Reverence and your Brother Commissary, the Rev^d M^r. Wilkinson, wherein his Lordship assures us that he has nothing more at heart than the Protestant establishment, and that he will do all that in him lies to encourage and favor the Church of England as by law established, for which great and wise declaration we are ready at all times to shew our acknowledgments, and should now enter into such measures as, after consultation with your reverence, should be thought proper to express our duty thereupon, did not the time of the week, so near a close, require our return to our respective cures.

We are,

M^r. Commissary,

Your Reverence's, &c.,

HENRY HALL,

SAM^l SKIPTON,

JONATHAN CAY,

THO^s COCKSHUTT,

WILL. MACONCHIE,

GILES RAINSFORD.

JOHN FRAZIER,

M^r. Commissary HENDERSON to the Clergy of Maryland.

May 20th, 1720.

REV^d BRETHREN,

I am extremely obliged to you for so seasonably obviating the reports that have prevailed on the score of the present Meeting. You may think that my having no notice of it joined to them, should in reason make me suspect at least something extraordinary, especially when my tender regard as well as great affection was with you; and I am sure the great respect so ardently expressed to our right Rev^d Diocesan and the person of his Commissary has sufficiently compensated my care.

I had no intent to charge any of you, my Rev^d Brethren, for deviating from the discipline of the Church or your sacred character, but humbly to put

you in mind of it, lest, as I suspected from the grounds above, you should be led into anything of an extraordinary nature without consulting me, & I am much obliged to you for the offer you make of communicating what you have writ to his Lordship the Bishop of London, our Diocesan, and do heartily embrace it, hoping we shall conclude our present intercourse with an amicable and brotherly conversation, free from all suspicion of one another, and may never any occasion be given for anything of that nature for time to come.

I agree with you entirely that his Lordship the Proprietary's Letter contains a wise and great declaration in the terms there expressed, & hope you will advise the proper time for our just acknowledgments, as also for consulting what further may be necessary for the increase of the Protestant religion established among us.

I am, with great respect, Rev^d Gentlemen, &c.,
JACOB HENDERSON.

Mr. President BROOKE to Mr. Commissary HENDERSON.

June 25th, 1720.

REVEREND SIR,

Having an account of your design to meet your Reverend Brethren at Annapolis, the 28th instant, to consult the affairs of our Church, wherein I heartily wish you success, I take the opportunity of assuring you that my best wishes attend you, and that nothing in my power shall ever be wanting to contribute towards the support of our holy religion so long as I have the honor to administer the Government of this Province, wherein I hope nobody will question my sincerity, having through the whole course of my life given all the testimonys of it I could, and had I no other motives or obligations than a due regard to my good Lord proprietor's inclinations, I could not without the highest breach of Trust but wish his Lordship have the good and prosperity of the Church of England, as by law established, at heart; and I cannot but congratulate your Reverence and your Brethren on the assurances already given yourself and your Reverend Brother Commissary by his Lordship, and sincerely wish a constant intercourse of good offices between him and you, of

support and protection from him, and from you duty and fidelity, which none shall more zealously endeavor to contribute towards than,

Rev^d Sir, &c.,

THOMAS BROOKE.

The Clergy of Maryland to Mr. President BROOKE.

June 29th, 1720.

HON^{BLE} SIR,

We have, with the greatest satisfaction, been favored with your Honor's Letter, the purport of which is, in great measure, well known to us.

We heartily congratulate your Honor and ourselves on the happy intercourse of good offices betwixt our Lord Proprietary and the Church in this Province. Nothing shall be wanting on our parts to show how sensible we are of our duty to his Lordship and your Honor, and beg leave to assure you that we are, by duty and inclination,

Hon^{ble} Sir, &c.,

JACOB HENDERSON, Com^{ry},

EVAN EVANS, D.D.,

WILL. MACHONCHIE,

SAMUEL SKIPTON,

GILES RAINSFORD,

HENRY HALL,

JOSEPH COLEBATCH,

THOMAS COCKSHUTT.

JOHN FRASER,

Clergy of the Western Shore to Lord BALTIMORE.

June 29th, 1720.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR LORDSHIP,

We, the Clergy of the Western shore of the Province of Maryland, beg leave with grateful hearts to make our just acknowledgments to your Lordship for the great regard you pay to our order, and those other expressions of favour contained in your Lordship's letter to the Right Rev^d the Lord Bishop of London's Commissaries in this Province, and communicated to us.

We rejoice in it, both as our glory and our happiness, that we live under an administration, the head whereof has declared that he has nothing more at heart than the Protestant establishment, and that he will do all that in him lies to encourage & favor the Church of England as by law established; these great and wise declarations shall always meet with a suitable return of duty and affection from us, and we shall take care to instil the same sentiments into others with whom we converse.

We are at the same time favored with a letter from your Lordship's President, assuring us of his utmost zeal and care for our Church, which we are highly sensible of, and shall always endeavor to approve ourselves,

May it please your Lordship, &c.,

JACOB HENDERSON,	EVAN EVANS, D.D.,	WIL. MACHONCHIE,
SAMUEL SKIPPTON,	GILES RAINSFORD,	HENRY HALL,
JOSEPH COLEBATCH,	THO ^s COCKSHUTT,	JOHN FRASER.

Rev. Mr. HENDERSON to the Bishop of London.

MARYLAND, July 16, 1720.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR LORDSHIP,

I was in hopes to have made my acknowledgments in person for your Lordship's License to come for England before this time, but the state of my affairs has hitherto prevented me. It is almost incredible how far M^r. Hart's malice carried him, even to affect in an unusual and extraordinary manner the little estate I have got here, but I thank God we have now got rid of him, and may he never return more to us in the quality of Governor. I heartily forgive him the injuries he has done me, but were he to return again many Gentlemen, as well as myself, would be obliged to sell, and be gone from hence. I could give many instances of his malicious treatment of myself and others, nay, his Patron and best friend, the Lord Proprietary of this Province, but I presume it is ungrateful to your Lordship to read, as it is really so to me to write it.

What is now incumbent on me is to give your Lordship the trouble of the inclosed papers, which will, in a great measure, inform you of our present

state. The Lord Proprietarie's Letter to my Brother Commissary and me shows how ready he is to succour the Clergy. The Hon^{ble} the President's Letter is really a true account of what he has transacted in all capacities, a great lover of the Church and all honest men, and our returns to both is not, I think, short in expressions of duty and gratitude.

Governor Hart, a little before his departure, invited the Clergy to Annapolis, without any notice to me. It was reported he intended them to address either the King or your Lordship against the Lord Proprietary. I thought such proceeding would be unbecoming them, therefore I went to Annapolis and bespoke them, as your Lordship will see by the enclosed of the 20th of May. Their answer and my reply shows the good understanding between us, notwithstanding the endeavours used to prevent it.

We had no meetings on the Western shore for a considerable time before, nor was it at all possible for me to accomplish anything for the good of the Church during Mr. Hart's administration, for his aim was only to draw the Clergy into projects against me, as is well known to your Lordship from the complaints made at our last, and indeed first visitation, and since fully answered by me; but now I hope things will go smoothly, and that a good decorum will be preserved among us. I have made a beginning towards it, as your Lordship will perceive by my speech to the Clergy 28th of June, and we have agreed to meet once a year to keep up our resolutions in the points therein contained. There was but a few that met, the rest sent such excuses as we thought reasonable to allow of.

This is all that I have at present to trouble your Lordship withall, and I hope the matters therein will receive your Lordship's approbation, which I shall rejoice in, as well as always to be,

May it please your Lordship, &c.,

JACOB HENDERSON.

Governor BROOKE to the Bishop of London.

MARYLAND, 18th July, 1720.

MY LORD,

The Government here being in me at present under the Lord Proprietor, I take it to be my indisputable duty to do all I can to promote the true interest of the Church of England established in this Province, as well as I am firmly attached to it by my judgment and inclination.

I with great pleasure congratulate your Lordship on the happy prospect we have (by the good conduct and example of your Commissary, the Rev^d M^r. Henderson) of putting an end to the unhappy disputes that were on purpose raised among the Clergy about matters that no way concerned their duty (viz^t), endeavours to misrepresent our Lord Proprietor. And I can with great truth say that no nobleman can do more than his Lordship has done to convince us all of his regard and zeal for the Protestant religion and Interest.

As this is an happy prospect, and promises me much ease and satisfaction so long as I shall have the honor of governing, so I humbly pray your Lordship's assistance to perfect so good beginnings by your paternal Injunctions to the Clergy to promote and forward them. They shall never want what service I can do them, nor shall I omit any opportunity to demonstrate that

I am, my Lord, &c.,

THO^s BROOKE.

Rev. M^r. TUSTIAN to the Secretary.

(EXTRACT.)

* * * But, at the same time, hope that the great expence I was at in attending your Board for two months before I was admitted missionary, and the like great expence I have since been at by being in a manner obliged to quit the Province I was sent to so soon by reason of the unhappiness of the times there, will be taken into consideration, especially since I am still

engaged in the same pious work, though in a different place, and may rather be said to have eased the Society of a charge than to have deserted their Service, there being perhaps nowhere, I am sure not in Carolina, more want of Orthodox Clergy than there is here, for to saying nothing of the ignorance and sensuality of our people here. There are in some Counties two or three Popish priests, who are allowed the free exercise of their Religion for one of the Church of England. I shall add nothing more, but that I am,

Sir,
Y^r most humble Servant,
TUSTIAN.

From St. Margaret's, Westminster, in Ann Arundel County, near Annapolis, in Maryland, July 19th, 1721.

Articles of Enquiry exhibited to the Churchwardens at the Visitation held May the 30th, 1722, in St. Peter's Church in Talbot County.

ARTICLE 1st.—*Concerning the Church and Chapel.*

1st. Is your Parish Church and Chapel in good and sufficient repair decently kept, as beftteth the House of God?

2^d. Is there a font for the administration of baptism in the usual place appointed, and a convenient table for the use of the Lord's Supper? If there be not, you are to provide and make such against the next visitation.

3^d. Have you a reading-desk and pulpit conveniently set up and placed for the use of public prayer?

4th. Have you a Glebe & Glebe house belonging to your Parish Church? Is the said house kept in good repair, and are the Gardens and Orchards well fenced and dressed?

ARTICLE 2^d.—*Concerning the Clergy.*

1st. Doth the Minister read the full service according to the direction of the Common Prayer Book, or doth he negligently and in contempt of the order of the Church omit or add to the same?

2^d. Doth he baptize Infants and grown persons according to the Order of the Common Prayer when they are brought to the Church on Sundays or Holydays, and not in private houses but in case of sickness only?

3^d. Doth he visit the sick at their houses when required?

4th. Doth he marry any within the degrees prohibited, or without License, or bans published three several Sundays or holidays; and doth he marry in any other place than the Church, and betwixt the hours of eight and twelve in the forenoon only?

5th. Is your Rector a Lecturer, a man of a sober life & unblameable conversation? Is your Lecturer licensed according to the Laws of this Province?

ARTICLE 3^d.—*Concerning Parishioners.*

1st. Is there any person in your Parish who is an open and notorious evil liver? who is a common swearer or drunkard, or guilty of any other notorious crime or wickedness of life that offends the Congregation?

2^d. Is there any who disturbs the service or sermon by walking or talking, by going into and out of the Church unseasonably? Do they behave themselves decently and reverently, kneeling or standing in time of divine service as is appointed in the rubrick of the Common Prayer Book?

3^d. Do they diligently resort to divine service and Sermons on Sundays, or do any of them spend the Lord's day in tipling and drinking, or loitering at home, and neglecting to come to the public worship of God in their Parish Church or Chapel?

4th. Are there any in your Parish married within the Degrees prohibited by the Laws of God and of this Province?

5th. Doth any teach school in your Parish without License, or neglect to teach his Scholars the Church Catechism?

CHRISTOPHER WILKINSON, Commissary.

CHARACTER OF THE CLERGY IN MARYLAND.

<i>Clergymen's Names on Western Shore.</i>	<i>Parishes.</i>	<i>Counties.</i>	
Jacob Henderson, . . .	Commissary of St. Barnabas,	Prince George, . .	A Tory.
Giles Rainsford, . . .	Rector of St. Paul's, . .	Prince George, . .	A stickler for the present happy establishment.
John Fraser,	Rector of King George's, . .	Prince George, . .	A Whig.
Sam'l Skippon,	Rector of St. Ann's, Annapolis,	Ann Arundel, . .	A Whig, & an excellent scholar & good liver.
	Westminster Parish, Vacant,	Ann Arundel.	
Joseph Colbatch, . . .	Rector of All Hallows, . .	Ann Arundel, . .	A Whig, & one of the best of men.
Peter Tustian,	Of St. James's,	Ann Arundel, . .	A stranger lately come from S. Carolina.
James Williamson, . .	Rector of All Saints', . .	Calvert,	An Idiot & Tory.
Jonathan Cay,	Rector of Christ Church, . .	Calvert,	A Whig, & an excellent scholar & good man.
Mr. Tibbs,	Rector of St. Paul's, . .	Baltimore, . . .	A Whig.
One Parish Vacant by the death of Dr. Evans,	—	Do.	
W ^m Machonchie, . . .	Rector of Port Tobacco & Durham,	Charles,	A mighty stickler for the present establishment.
John Donaldson, . . .	Rector of King & Queen, . .	St. Mary's, . . .	A Grand Tory & a Rake.
Robt Scott,	Rector of All Faiths', . .	Do.	A Whig & a good Christian.
Leigh Massey,	Rector of St. Mary's, . .	Do.	A stranger lately arrived.

CHARACTER OF THE CLERGY IN MARYLAND.

<i>Clergymen's Names on Eastern Shore.</i>	<i>Parishes.</i>	<i>Counties.</i>	
Christopher Wilkinson,	Commissary of St. Paul's,	Queen Anne, . .	A Whig & a truly good man.
Henry Nichols, . . .	Rector of St. Michael's,	Do.	A Whig & one of the best of men.
Danl. Mainadier, . .	Rector of St. Peter's, .	Talbot,	A Whig of the first rank, and reputed a good liver, but a horrid preacher.
Mr. Howell,	Rector of Cambridge, .	Dorchester, . .	A stranger to me.
Thos. Robinson, . .	Rector of Coventry, . .	Somerset, . . .	A Grand Tory.
One Parish Vacant, . .	Do.	Do.	
Alexander Williamson,	Rector of St. Paul's, . .	Kent,	A Whig & a devout Christian, but an indifferent preacher.
One Parish Vacant, .	Shrewsbury,	Kent.	
Vacant,	—	All Dorsette.*	
George Ross,	Rector of St. Mary Anne,	Cecil,	A Tory & belongs to the Society.
Richard Sewell, . . .	Rector of St. Stephen's,	Do.	A stranger to me, and his character so too.
Thos. Phillips, . . .	Rector of Christ Church,	Kent Island, . .	Tried for his life in Virginia for shooting a man. Reformed.

* Not so. See Cambridge.—E. A.

*The Names of the Clergy and of their respective Parishes on
the Western Shore in Maryland, 1723.*

Jacob Henderson, . .	Rector of St. Barnabas, an Irish man, . .	Commissary.
John Fraser,	Rector of King George's Parish, Scotch- man,	} Prince George's County.
Giles Rainsford, . .	Rector of St. Paul's, Lancashire, . . .	
Samuel Skippon, . .	Rector of St. Ann's, An- napolis, Irish,	} The place where the Cler- gy meet on occasions on this shore is Annapolis.
Peter Tustian,	Rector of St. James's, } Ann Arundel Warwickshire, } County.	
Mr. Joseph Colebatch, .	Rector of All Hallows, Derbyshire, }	
Westminster Parish, Va- cant. 26,000 in To- bacco yearly, which amounts to, at 10 shil- lings 7 ^d hundred, or 5 pound a thousand, 130 pounds sterling.		
James Williamson, . .	Rector of All Saints', Scotch,	} Northum- { Calvert berland, { County.
Jonathan Cay,	Rector of Christ Church Parish,	
Leigh Massey,	Rector of St. Mary's Parish, Lancashire, .	} St. Mary's County.
John Donaldson, . . .	Rector of —, Scotch,	
Mr. Robert Scott, . . .	Rector of All Faiths', Kentish Man, . . .	} Charles County.
William Machonchie, .	Rector of Durham Parish, Scotch,	
William & Mary Parish, Vacant, & only 12, 000 in Tobacco year- ly,		
Mr. Tibbs,	Rector of St. Paul's Parish, in	Charles County. Baltimore County.
Another Parish Vacant in the same County. 28,000 in Tobacco yearly.		

QUERIES.

ANSWERS TO THE QUERIES.

EXTRACT OUT OF THE LAWS

OF SUCH AS RELATE TO THE

CHURCH CLERGY AND SCHOOLS.

CHARTER OF MARYLAND.

Western Shore of Maryland.

*Queries to be answered by the Persons who were Commissaries to my
Predecessor.*

1st. What Publick Acts of Assembly have been made and Confirmed,
Relating to y^e Church or Clergy wthin y^e Governm^t?

Ans. The Publick Acts now in Force Relating to the Church, Clergy, and
Schools are hereunto annexed.

2^d. How oft hath it been usual to hold a visitation of y^e Clergy? How oft
have you called a Convention of them, and what hath been y^e business ordi-
narily done, and y^e Method of Proceeding in such Meetings?

Ans. My Commission bears date y^e 16th day of Feb^r, 1715. I Rec^ded it in

April following. I Convened y^e Clergy for their advice and opinion in it, who Thought y^e Jurisdiction would be opposed by y^e Country, & advised me not to set it up; I Communicated this their advice to the then Lord Bishop of London, who by his Letter to me of y^e 14th of March, 171⁹, ordered y^e I should set ab^t Executing y^e Powers of my Commission, as soon as y^e I rec^ded that his Letter, wth assurance y^e, if any obstructions were laid in y^e way, they should be effectually removed in a little time.

Upon this ord^r & assurance I had y^e Clergy & Churchwardens summoned, and held a visitation on Wednesday, y^e 4th of Decemb^r, 1717, w^{ch} was Continued y^e next day, & from thence adjourned to Tuesday, y^e 25th of Feb^r following, and from Thence to March y^e 13th to finish y^e business.

The Church-Wardens were sworn, & had Articles of Inquiry delivered them. There began a new face upon Things, order & Decency among both Clergy & Laity was most likely to be the Consequence.

The Clergy produced their letters of ordⁿ, licenses, and Instrum^t of Presentation. Those of them who hold two Parishes were advised to take out a dispensation according to y^e Act of Assembly for Establishm^t of Religious Worship, and y^e vestries of vacant Parishes were admonished to provide proper persons for Readers during y^e vacancy, to be examined & Lyncenced by y^e ordinary according to y^e afores^d Act.

While Matters were thus Transacting I rec^ded another Letter from his Lordship of y^e 5th of Octo^r, 1717, w^{ch} order^d me not to set up a Court in Form, but keep wthin the bounds the Commissaries in y^e other Colonies confined themselves to, Till he had certain Information that his Commission would be allowed by y^e Governm^t here to Reach further than the Inspection into the manners & behaviour of y^e Clergy.

This put a stop to any further proceedings in Form, and I was advised y^e other proceedings than in form could not be Justified.

In y^e Mean time an application was made by The Commissaries & Clergy to y^e assembly here, for an Act to facilitate y^e Execution of y^e L^d Bishop of London's Jurisdiction. But they were not inclined to pass such an Act. The application (tho^t I joyned in it) was against my opinion and Judgm^t, foreseeing that y^e Consequence would be their Refusal, and y^e would render any endeavours to keep a decorum among y^e Clergy & Laity precarious and useless, w^{ch} has happened accordingly, Most People Concluding from thence that there is no ground or foundation for such a Jurisdiction.

Thus I was prevent^d from getting any knowl^{de} of y^e disorders y^e affected y^e Church, and Consequently from Redressing them. The Churchwardens were never afterward summoned to give answers to the articles of Inquiry.

There were then two Clergymen under Prosecution, The Rev^d M^r. Henry Hall, for most outrageously contemning y^e Jurisdiction & habitual drunkenness, but being since dead, I waive any further account of it. The other, The Rever^d M^r. W^m Tibbs, Rector of St. Paul's, in Baltemore Cou^{ty}, upon Complaint of y^e then Govern^r, Coll. John Hart, in writing exhibited, who still remains Incorrigible, and would not be prevail'd on to regard the Gov^r's Letter, the Assembly's summons ab^t dividing his Parish, nor mine when I wrote to him to appear, to sattisfie them ab^t y^e service of His Cure.

Afterwards I convened y^e Clergy once a year; the business was to conferr with them ab^t y^e discharge of our ministerial Function. The following speech I made to them shows y^e particulars, and these afterwards were y^e subject of our Communications. Some addresses indeed were made to the Right Hon^{ble} the Lord Proprietarie & the Gov^r, which were occasioned by a letter from his Lord^{sh} to y^e Clergy, and mentioned in y^e beginning of y^e speech as follows:

The Speech to y^e Clergy 28th of June, 1721.

REV^d BRETHREN,

Our Meeting Together at this time is effect of y^e Consultation at our Inter-view y^e 20th of May last. Then was presented to you a Letter from our Noble Lord y^e Proprietarie of this Province, wherein he assures you of y^e great regard he has for y^e order, That he hath nothing more at heart than the Protestant Establishm^t, and y^t he will do all y^t in him lies to Incourage & favour y^e Church of England as by law Established. This you were pleased to say was a great & wise declaration, and y^t you were ready at all times to show y^e acknowledgm^t, and I think (indeed) that less cannot well be expected from us, since his Condescension, in taking notice of us, has præ-existed any expressions of our Duty to him. But this, I hope, wee shall sufficiently make up, in our future Conduct, by Instilling into y^e minds of all y^t wee are concern'd for a Just Notion of his Right & their Duty to him, under his most sacred Maj^{ty} King George. By this wee shall render ourselves (I dare say) most acceptable to both, as well as most easy & happy to ourselves, Nothing yielding more quiet to an honest mind than the faithfull discharge of itself in matters of Justice & duty, wth Integrity & unbiassed Circumspection.

When wee shall acquit ourselves in this point so Incumbent on us, it is very necessary & requisite wee should Consult y^e more Immediate affairs that concern our common Interest & Duty; How wee shall best promote Religion & the ends of our sacred Function, and in Regard to this (I think) wee ought to fix on these following resolutions:

First, wee should resolve to be more than ordinary diligent in Catarchical Instructions; this is y^e Groundwork of all, inasmuch as y^e knowledge of true Religion is in y^e first place necessary, so a short system of y^e Essential Points should be fixed on y^e memory, in order to support and maintain such knowledge in y^e soul; and therefore our business being to watch for y^e souls of men, we ought diligently to Inculcate such necessary Instruction.

Secondly, a more frequent administration of the Sacram^t of the Lord's Supper than usual wth most of us, should be endeavoured, since it solemnly ties up men, & obliges them to y^e observation of y^e Baptismal Covenant, since it exhibits to God, & man, too, the memorial of Christ's death, and by y^e means prevails on y^e one, and disposes y^e other, for y^e Influencies of Divine Grace; Nay, I may say, since it is the great Christian service, and the bond of Love & Charity, we Cannot oftner meet together to worship God, than it would be necessary to participate of that Divine Ordinance. But to y^e want of a sufficient Number to communicate may (I presume) be attributed our seldom Communion; yet in some parishes there is a great perfection attained to in it. Therefore, 'tis to be hoped y^e diligent application would, if not soon, yet in good time be attended wth success.

Thirdly, a constant Celebration of Divine Service on Sundays is duely performed (I doubt not) in all y^e parishes, as also sermons for y^e Instruction of the People; Let us likewise resolve solemnly to bid Holydays, or y^e festivals & fasts of y^e Church, & Celebrate them according to y^e Canon. It must be a great ornament certainly to our Profession strictly to observe the duties of those seasons, frequently to humble ourselves before God wth fasting & prayer, to Meditate on y^e Misteries of our Redemption, & to thank God for y^e Labours of y^e Apostles, and for y^e Miraculous Gifts he bestowed on them in order to Convert y^e world. And if wee ought to be Punctual in y^e duties, so in y^e seasons too, since they cannot be performed but in certain seasons; and then none more proper than those appointed by y^e Church, it being our duty to obey our Spiritual Govern^r, and to submit ourselves to their decent & orderly Decisions.

Fourthly, a strict adherence, as far as may be, to y^e rules & orders of our Church should be resolved on, for besides that it is our Duty, and y^e wee are under Solemn Tyes & obligations to it, so doth y^e Contrary Practice bring a great scandal on our Church, and Tends much to weaken & undermine its happy Constitutions, for if wee are negligent in y^e observation of them, what can be concluded from thence by both our friends & enemies, but y^e wee little regard them, and think them useless & vain; and then y^e such should be strictly Injoynd by y^e Church must certainly be a great Reflection either on her or us; nothing more Natural than this way of Reasoning.

Lastly, wee should resolve not to interfere in y^e business of one another's Parishes, except at the Desire or Request of y^e Minister thereof, for it will undoubtedly be either a door to Confusion or bring upon y^e practisers of it y^e scandall of pursuing filthy Lucre, or both.

The above particulars, Rev^d Brethren, I think are worthy to be y^e subject of our present resolutions, and I recommend them to you as such, and hope you'll Concurr wth me in them, as also in a resolution to take a strict Care of our Conduct & behaviour, y^e wee may adorn y^e Doctrine of our Holy Religion wth an Exemplary life & Conversation; the Consequence of all which must in reason be the blessing of God upon our Labours, the approbation of our Right Reverend Diocesan; and I assure you you shall never want y^e Brotherly Care nor affection of, Rever^d Gentlemen,

Y^r Most affectionate Brother & most Humble Serv^t,

JACOB HENDERSON.

To w^{ch} Speech the Clergy replied as follows:

Wee heartily assent to, and to y^e utmost of our power, and as far as y^e Circumstances of y^e Country permits, will comply wth the above articles, and pray that y^e Reverence will be pleased to transmitt Copies of them to all the Brethren.

W^m MACHONCHIE, Rector of Durham.

EVAN EVANS, D.D., Rector of S^t. John's & S^t. George.

JONAⁿ CAY, Rector of Christ Church, in Calvert Cou^{ty}.

SAM^l SKIPPON, Rector of S^t. Ann's, at Annapolis.

W^m TIBBS, Rector of S^t. Paul's Parish, Baltimore Cou^{ty}.

GILES RANSFORD, Rector of S^t. Paul's Parish, Prince Geo. Cou^{ty}.

Besides The Conferences at y^e yearly Convention, Wee considered y^e Case of y^e Orphans & widows of Clergymen, and in regard y^e wee had an acc^t from William & Mary Parish, in St. Mary's Cou^{ty}, of their grievous Circumstances by reason of their Long vacancy & distance from y^e Clergy next to them, above thirty miles; that their Children died wthout Baptism, their sick wthout y^e Comfort or assistance of a spiritual Guide, and the whole deprived for three or four years of y^e benefit of Publick Divine service, w^{ch} was likely to give a great Harvest to y^e Popish Superstition so Rampant in those parts. Wee therefore made offer of our Service to them (w^{ch} our Gov^t, always ready to do what service he can for Religion) recommended to y^e vestry to accept off, and to allow us one half of y^e yearly income for such service. Wee served eight months of y^e year, and gave the profits to y^e orphan of a Clergyman; this in the year 1721, and y^e next year wee performed the same services in that parish in behalf of two orphans, daughters of y^e Former Incumbent.

Such as these were y^e matters Transacted in our Convention, and some applications to y^e assembly w^{ch} wee found ourselves anywise grieved, or the Interest of y^e Church likely to be lost; as in y^e case of Glebes, some have been escheated for want of sufficient words in wills, and it was at our Instance y^e the act for securing of Lands left to y^e Church was made.

3^d. Does any Clergyman officiate who has not y^e Bishop's License for y^e Governm^t?

Ans. There is not any Clergyman y^e officiating on y^e Western Shore but has a licence from y^e Bishop of London; some have not a licence directly for this Governm^t, but the custom has been here to receive y^e licence in general, and to admit to a benefice upon it whether it were for this Governm^t or any other Colony in y^e Plantations.

4th. What Parishes are there w^{ch} have yet no Church nor Minister?

Ans. There is one Church at least in every Parish. There are three vacant Parishes on y^e Western Shore; two in Baltimore county, St. George's and St. John's. These two have been united under four incumbents successively by y^e constant engagement of y^e several vestrys, as by y^e act for establishment of Religious Worship such power is given. The two are but a comfortable subsistance. The other, William & Mary Parish, in Charles County, the forty $\frac{1}{2}$ Poll whereof is not a sufficient competency, they have never had a Minister. The Neighbouring Minister, M^r. Machonchie, officiates sometimes.

5th. How is the revenue of y^e Ch^h applied w^h arises during y^e vacancies?

Ans. The act for establishm^t of Religious Worship made no provision for y^e application of it, but by a later act Intituled an act to declare how the forty pounds of Tobacco ꝑ poll in such parishes where there is no incumbent shall be disposed of, it is there provided that y^e vestry shall dispose of it towards repairing and finishing the Church, and purchasing a pulpit cloth and other utensills, or if all these things done, then to purchase a glebe and to stock it, as in the s^d act more at large appears. But I must observe that this Revenue is miserably Mismanaged, for y^e most part Imbezled away, and tho' there is another act Intituled an act Impowering y^e Commissioners of y^e Cou^{ty} Courts to levy and raise tobacco to defray y^e necessary charges of their Counties and parishes, whereby it is provided y^t where no Incumbent is, there the vestrymen shall keep a fair acc^t of the disposition of the forty ꝑ poll, and a true Copy thereof, under the hands of the Principal vestryman & four of his brethren of longest standing, shall yearly and every year be transmitted to the Governour and Council of this Province for their Inspection, under the penalty of one thousand pounds of tobacco. Tho', I say, this provision is made ag^t Imbezling it, yet (upon y^e strictest Inquiry I can make) it appears that there has not been as yet one acc^t transmitted to the Governour and Council for their Inspection.

Formerly when there subsisted but the one act for Establishm^t of Religious Worship, the next Incumb^t had some part of w^h arose during y^e vacancy, in consideration of attendance on y^e Bishop of London for necessary powers and other expences in coming hither, w^h was in my opinion very equitable, and y^e usually by authority of y^e Gov^r and Council. It is pitty, in my opinion, there was not some part of it now to be disposed of towards inviting and Incuraging able Ministers to come over and reside among us.

6th. What are the ordinary prices of y^e necessities of life there?

Ans. Wee have no Market except at Annapolis, the Capitol of this Province, and there but a poor one; our staple is Tobacco, and people are mostly Impley'd ab^t that. Those who have plantations raise on them Beef, Pork, fowls, Indian Corn, wheat, Pease and beans. There are orchards on most plantations, and in general People make some syder. Those who have not plantations are hard put to it for such things, and pay very dear for them; the price sometimes more sometimes less. It is Impossible to fix on the prices they are so variable according to the circumstances of the Trade of the Province.

Our Cloathing, household furniture, Malt, beer, sugar, spice, Coffee, Tea, and such Things generally come from England, and are sold by y^e merch^{ts} here at above one hundred $\frac{3}{4}$ cent. The expense of living here is generally valued doubl. w^t it is in England.

7th. Can you suggest anything that may be serviceable to Religion, and conduce to y^e ease of y^e clergy, and their more comfortable subsistence, w^{ch} you believe to be fairly practicable, & w^{ch} will no ways Interfere wth y^e authority of y^e Govern^t, nor be judged an Infringm^t of y^e Rights of the People?

Ans. It is hard to suggest anything that would not be Interpreted either to interfere with the authority of the Governour or an Infringm^t on y^e Rights of the People. However, I have made some observations on y^e several acts of assembly, to be taken notice there.

But what I would propose as y^e greatest service y^t can be done for Religion and the ease of the Clergy is, That a Bishop should be sent for this Province to reside in it, to have solely y^e inspection of it, and a Charge it will be sufficient for any one man.

Many disorders happen, differences between the Clergy and their parishes, Infringments on each other's Rights and duties that raise such misunderstandings as are seldom totally removed. When parishes become vacant, they commonly continue so for a long time, except they are filled at y^e expence of another. Children unconfirmed, w^{ch} makes it difficult to get Godfathers and Godmothers, and an entire want of discipline, except w^t is pretended to by laymen. The vestry's very assuming in this particular, w^{ch} makes our struggles many and great, and our lives altogether uncomfortable; all w^{ch} occasions great confusions to y^e vast detrim^t of our Church and Growth of other Communities.

It will not, I presume, be taken amiss^d if I should propose w^t in my opinion might probably be accomplished for y^e support & maintenance of his Dignity.

The Commissary's office for Probate of Wills and Test^s is worth here (under-rated) six hundred pounds sterl. a year. I cannot think but that the Influence of the present Lord Bishop of London, joyned wth that of y^e Hon. Society for Propagation of y^e Gospell, is powerfull enough wth y^e L^d Baltimore, y^e Proprietarie of this Province, to procure the settlement of y^t office on a Bishop, an application to him is (in my humble opinion) the more reasonable because in his Charter he has Licence and power to build Churches, Chappells & oratories in Conven^t and fit places, and cause them to be dedicated and conse-

crated, according to y^e Ecclesiastical laws of England. A Copy of his Charter is annexed.

Now this office, wth ab^t fifteen hundred acres of Land, twenty slaves, and a stock of cattell, hoggs, sheep, and other necessities for such a plantation, would support the dignity of a bishop very handsomly in this country, above any person in it, except y^e Gov^r. The plantation would support his Table wth provision, and y^e office all other necessities, in a splendid Condition, and money to spare.

I further humbly propose, y^t for y^e Reasons given in y^e observations upon y^e three acts (The Titles whereof are hereafter mentioned) an application be made to his Maj^{ty} to Dissent to them (viz^t), The

Act Impowering y^e Commiss^{rs} of y^e Cou^{ty} Courts to levy and raise Tobacco to defray y^e necessary Charges of their Countys & Parishes.

Act Impowering y^e Justices of y^e several County Courts to Regulate y^e bounds of y^e several parishes, and for ascertaining y^e time & manner when & how The Fourty p poll shall become due & payable to y^e Minister.

Act to declare how y^e fourty pounds of Tobacco p poll shall be disposed of in such parishes where there is no incumbent.

These acts are Incroachm^{ts} on y^e Primitive Law, besides the two last are such (in my humble opinion) on y^e L^d Bishop of London's Jurisdiction, who ought to have y^e Trust of y^e Revenues of y^e Church. They give y^e vestrys an opportunity of Imbezling it, and often leads them into Sacriledge.

JACOB HENDERSON.

At a Session of Assembly, begun & held at y^e Port of Annapolis, in y^e Province of Maryland, y^e 16th day of March, 170¹.

An Act for y^e Establishment of Religious Worship in this Province; according to y^e Church of England, and for y^e Maintenance of Ministers.

Forasmuch as, in a well-grounded Commonwealth, matters concerning Religion and y^e Honour of God ought, in y^e first place, to be Taken into Consideration, & honest endeavours to attain to such good Ends Countenanced

and Encouraged, as being not only most acceptable to God, but y^e best way & means to obtain his mercy & blessing upon a People or Country.

Be it Therefore enacted by y^e King's most Excellent Majesty, by & wth y^e advice & consent of this present General Assembly, and by Authority of y^e same, That y^e Book of Common Prayer and Administration of y^e Sacram^{ts}, and other Rites & Ceremonies of y^e Church, according to y^e uses of y^e Church of England, The Psalter or Psalms of David, & Morning & Evening Prayer Therein Contained, be Solemnly Read by all & Every Minister or Reader in Every Church w^{ch} now is, or hereafter shall be, settled & Established within this Province; and y^e all Congregations & places for y^e Public Worship according to y^e usage of y^e Church of England within this Province, for y^e Maintenance of whose Ministers, and of the Persons officiating therein, any certain Income or Revenue is, or shall by the laws of this Province be established & enjoyned to be raised or paid, shall be deemed settled & Established Churches.

And for y^e encouragem^t of faithful & able Ministers Labouring in y^e Work of y^e Gospel, to Come and Reside in this Province, Be it Enacted, by y^e authority afores^d, That a Tax or assessm^t of Forty Pounds of Tobacco ꝑ poll be yearly and Every year successively Levied upon every Taxable person within each Respective Parish within this Province, as they have been, now are, or hereafter shall be laid out, Limited, and appointed by y^e laws of this Province, and entered upon Record, as y^e former laws therein did direct; w^{ch} s^d assessm^t of forty pounds of Tobacco ꝑ poll shall always be paid and allowed to y^e Minister of each respective Parish having no other Benefice to officiate in, Presented, Inducted, or appointed, by his Excellency y^e Govern^r or Commander in Chief for the time being. And every such Minister is hereby required and enjoyned to appoint & constantly to keep a Clerk of such Parish Church, & to pay and satisfy such Clerk the sum of one Thousand pounds of Tobacco yearly, and every year, out of y^e s^d forty ꝑ Poll.

And to prevent all Illegal & unlawful Marriages not allowable by y^e Church of England, but forbidden by y^e Table of Marriages, Be it Enacted, by y^e authority afores^d, That no Minister, Priest, or Magistrate, shall presume to Joyn together in Marriage any Persons whatsoever, contrary to the Table of Marriages by this Act Appointed to be set up in every Parish within this Province, under y^e Penalty of Five thousand pounds of Tobacco. Nor shall any person Forbidden to Intermarry by such Table of Marriages,

presume to be Joyned in Marriage under y^e like Penalty of five Thousand pounds of Tobacco; such penalties and forfeitures on either side to be made to our Sovereign Lord y^e King, his heirs & Successors, for y^e uses in this Act hereafter mentioned.

And to prevent any Lay Persons from joyning any Persons in Marriage, where any Minister or Priest can be had, And to ascertain w^h shall be paid for marriages, Be it Enacted, by y^e authority afores^d, That in every Parish where any Minister or Incumb^t shall Reside & have Charge of souls therein, No Justice or Magistrate, being a Lay-man, shall Joyn any person in marriage, under the Penalty of five Thousand pounds of Tobacco for such offence, to our Sovereign Lord y^e King, as aforesaid. And that it shall & may be lawful to every Minister to take & receive of every person or persons by him married, y^e sum of five shillings sterling, & no more: Provided such persons come to such Parish Church or Chappell at time of Divine Service For Sollemnizing such Marriages.

And for y^e better & more effectual Collecting of y^e s^d Duty of forty pounds of tobacco ꝑ Poll, and paying y^e same to y^e uses in this Law intended and appointed, Be it enacted that y^e Sheriff of each several County shall & is hereby obliged to Collect and Gather the s^d assessm^t of forty ꝑ Poll, of y^e several persons within each respective Parish in his Cou^{ty}, in the same manner and by the same authority as y^e publick & County Levys are Collected, and shall pay the same forty ꝑ Poll to y^e Minister or Incumb^t in Each Respective Parish.

And The better to Promote y^e Execution of y^e Good Laws of this Province, so far as concern y^e respective Parishes, and for y^e more easy dispatch of Parish business, Be it enacted, by y^e Authority afores^d, by & with the Advice & Consent afores^d, That there be select vestries in each Parish of this Province, and that the several Vestrymen of y^e several Parishes within this Province, that now are, or hereafter shall be Chosen, be a select vestry; of w^h vestry the number shall always be six at least, Except upon death or resignation, or other discharge of any of them, according to y^e Provision herein made to that purpose. And in such case of Death or Resignation, or other Legal discharge from serving, the remaining part of such vestrys shall, w^h all Conven^t speed, summon & appoint a general meeting of all the Inhabitants of the said Parish who are Free-holders within the same Parish, and Contribute to y^e public Taxes & charges of the s^d Parish, who shall, by

Majority of voices, Elect & choose one or more sober & discreet person or persons, Freeholders of each Respective Parish, to supply such vacancies. And such Person or Persons so Elected and Chosen shall take the usual oath appointed by act of Parliament, Instead of the Oath of Allegiance & supremacy, & y^e following Oath (viz^t): I Doe Solemnly Swear and Declare That I Will Justly & truly Execute the Trust or office of a Vestryman of This Parish, according to my best skill and knowledge, without prejudice, favor, or affection; w^{ch} s^d Oaths, at y^e Election of a new vestry, are to be administered by any Justice of Peace of the County, City, or place where such Vestry is; who is hereby Required & Impower'd to administer y^e same. And upon Elections afterwards, either by a Justice of Peace, as afores^d, or y^e first Vestryman, who is hereby likewise required and Impowered to administer y^e same; and each person so Elected and Chosen shall likewise subscribe y^e Test, and also the association; and having so done, & not before, shall be deemed & taken as one of y^e Vestry to all intents and Purposes.

And it is hereby further Ordained and Enacted, by y^e Authority aforesaid, That two New Vestry-Men shall be Annually chosen in y^e place of two others, who shall be left out; To w^{ch} Purpose all y^e Inhabitants of every parish, being freeholders within y^e same Parish, & Contributing to The publick taxes & Charges thereof, or such of them as shall think fit to attend, shall repair to their respective Parish Churches every year successively, upon Easter Monday, and there, by their free Choice, declare what two persons shall be discharged from their being Vestry Men, and Choose two other qualified according to ~~this present~~ Act, in their stead & Room; who, taking y^e oaths & performing all other things required by this present Act, or other the Laws of this Province for Vestry Men, shall be deemed & taken to be Members of the s^d Vestry to all intents & Purposes. Provided always That, in every Parish where any Minister or Incumbent is, or shall be lawfully, according to y^e laws & usages of this Province, appointed & in possession of any Living Invested wth y^e forty pounds ʒ Poll, and Residing therein, he shall, during y^e continuance afores^d, & no Longer, be one of the Vestry of such Parish, and Principal of such Vestry, although there be y^e Number of six persons or more besides. And, for keeping a fair Register of all such Vestry's Proceedings, and for Registring of all Births, Marriages, and Burials in each Respective Parish, Be it Enacted, by y^e authority, advice, and Consent afores^d, That each Vestry shall, and is hereby obliged, to provide a fit person

for a Registrar, who shall at all times keep a true and fair Registry of y^e several proceedings of such Vestry, from time to Time, in Executing their trust & authority, and make Just and true entries thereof; w^{ch} Persons so to be appointed for keeping such Registry, shall take the Oaths substituted in y^e place of y^e Oaths of Allegiance & supremacy, and subscribe y^e Test & association, & also an oath to be given him by y^e s^d Vestry; w^{ch} oath y^e s^d Vestry are hereby Impowered to administer accordingly, for y^e due & faithful executing his s^d office, before he shall be admitted into the s^d office. And shall make true Entry of all Vestry proceedings, and of all Births, Marriages, & Burials (Negroes & Mulatoes Excepted): That is to say, The Christian & surname, wth The day, Month, & year of every such births, Marriages, or Burials; To w^{ch} Purpose all & every y^e Inhabitants of each Parish that are either Parents, Guardians, overseers, Masters, or Mistresses of any person born, Married, or buried, are hereby enjoined & required to give notice to y^e Registrar of such parish within Two Months after such Birth, Marriage, & Burial, & pay him sixpence for entering it at y^e time of giving notice afores^d, under y^e Penalty of one Hundred pounds of Tobacco, to be forfeited by such Inhabitant afores^d, refusing or neglecting as afores^d. And under the Penalty of one hundred pounds of tobacco, to be forfeited by such Register refusing or neglecting to Enter it, having received his fee for y^e same. And such Register is hereby obliged to show any person or persons reasonably desiring it, any such Register, or give a Certificate of any Register of Births, Marriages, or Burials that shall be Reasonably required of him, and shall have for his fees from such persons sixpence for any search, and sixpence for any Copy or Certificate given as afores^d, & no more: Hereby Ratifying & Confirming as valid all Registers or entries of any Births, Marriages, or Burials heretofore made wth any Clerk of any County Court, according to y^e directions of such Laws as were y^a in force before any of those were in being.

And That the Register of each Parish may be enabled to perform the Charge required of him, Be it Enacted, by y^e Authority, advice, & Consent afores^d, That if there be any Vestries of any Parishes that have not already provided good and substantial Writing-Books, well bound, sufficient for Registring such Proceedings in, according to y^e direction of y^e former Laws. That in every such Case of such neglect or omission, the Vestry of such Parish shall, at y^e Parish Charge, Provide such book or books within six months from y^e End of this Sessions of Assembly, under the Penalty of five

hundred pounds of Tobacco each Vestry-Man (the Minister only Excepted) neglecting as aforesaid, to our Sovereign Lord the King, for y^e uses within Mentioned. And y^e there may be no neglect in y^e Vestrys or those employed under them, in y^e lawful & Conscionable performance of their several Charges, the s^d several vestries are hereby obliged to Meet once in every Month, or as often as need shall require, upon publick notice given by y^e principal Vestry-Man of each Parish, to Consult of y^e Methods & ways of performing the several Authorities reposed in them. And from w^{ch} Vestry so appointed, no Vestry-man, being personally summoned, shall, without a reasonable & lawful Excuse, absent himself, under y^e penalty of such fine or Mulct as y^e Residue of y^e s^d Vestry meeting shall lay upon them, so y^e same never Exceed one Hundred pounds of tobacco. And on default or neglect in such principal Vestry-man, as is before mentioned, to summon a Vestry w^h there is need for one, and he is thereunto requested, any other three of the Vestry, or if there shall happen by any accident to be but two of y^e s^d Vestry, besides the Principal Vestry-man, residing in y^e s^d Parish, such three or two shall have power & authority to summon & appoint a Vestry to be Holden. And all such Omissions & neglects to be noted in y^e Vestry Register of Proceedings; & any forfeitures thereby incurred, to be recovered in his Majestie's Name. And the s^d several & respective Vestries are hereby further enjoined, that where there is no Tables of Marriages already put up in their respective Parish Churches wth all Conven^t speed, and within six months at y^e most, to procure a fair Table of Marriages, transcribed & set up in their Respective Churches, and y^e same keep continually in y^e s^d Church, that persons being thereby Informed what Marriages are forbidden, may avoid the contracting of any such unlawful Marriages. And that y^e s^d Vestry Men, and y^e rest of y^e Inhabitants of every Parish, being free-holders within y^e same, & Contributing to The Publick Taxes & Charges thereof, do once every year, upon Easter Monday yearly, Make Choice & appoint Two sober and discreet persons, Free-holders within y^e same Parish, & Contributing to y^e Publick Taxes & Charges thereof, Having liberty also to vote in y^e choice of Church Wardens, each Vestry man (excepting as before excepted) being under the Penalty of Two Hundred pounds of Tobacco, for neglecting either to procure a table of Marriages, or to appoint Church Wardens to our Sovereign Lord the King, as aforesaid; which Church Wardens so Chosen shall take y^e usual oaths, and likewise declare on his oath, to be administered unto him by y^e

Vestry, to whom Power is hereby given to administer the same accordingly, well and faithfully to Execute y^e office for y^e ensuing year, according to y^e Laws & usages of the s^d Province, to y^e best of his skill & power, & until he shall be thereof Duly discharged. And any such person or persons so chosen Church Warden or Wardens, that shall wilfully refuse to serve in y^e s^d office, & take y^e Oaths afores^d, shall be fined one thousand pounds of tobacco to our Sovereign Lord y^e King.

And The Church Wardens & vestry are authorized & Required to take constant care to satisfie & pay y^e Parochial Charges, & all necessary Repairs & Amendm^t of their Respective Churches, Chappell, or Churchyards, and cause the same at all times to be repaired & amended, as need shall Require, out of such Gifts, goods, or Chattels, as shall come to their hands for y^e Church or Parish's use. And Towards the Paym^t of w^{ch} Parochial Charges all y^e fines, forfeitures, and Mulcts by this law incurred, shall be levied by y^e Churchwardens in each respective Parish, & by them accordingly applied. And in Case they shall not have sufficient Effects to pay Parochial Charges, as afores^d, or to Make such necessary repairs as are required, Then, and not otherwise, it shall be lawful for y^e Justices of y^e County Courts, upon application of such Parish, Vestry, and Church Wardens, to assess y^e Respective Parishes, by a Certain sum of Tobacco, not Exceeding ten pounds of Tobacco by y^e Poll, in any one year, w^{ch} assessm^t, made by such County Court, and a Certificate thereof, under the County seal, shall be sufficient to y^e sheriff of such County, to levy such Tax by y^e Poll, on y^e Taxables of such Parishes, in y^e same manner as other publick dues are Levied; & shall not deduct above five per Hundred for his sallary, & pay y^e same to such vestry, for y^e use afores^d.

And To the intent that this Act may answer The Ends of y^e Makers, w^{ch} is, that his Majestie's good subjects of this Province may be instructed in Religion, & therein of their Duty to God, His Majesty, themselves, and those Pious & Exemplary Persons that shall Labour therein, suitably provided for; Be it Enacted by y^e Authority, advice, & Consent afores^d, That no Minister or Incumbent shall at one time hold more than two Parishes, nor two unless by y^e desire & agreem^t of y^e Vestry of the s^d adjacent Parish, & Consent of the Vestry where he resides, And appointm^t of y^e Ordinary. And where there are not, or shall not be Ministers in any Parish, it shall & may be lawful for y^e Vestry to provide some sober & discreet Person, as a Reader, &

Present him to The Ordinary, who may sequester part of y^e forty ^{pp} Poll to pay him for such service, and y^e rest to be applied as y^e law in Cases of such vacancies directs. And upon such Readers taking the s^d oaths appointed by Act of Parliament, subscribing y^e Test & Association, And procuring Licence from y^e Ordinary, shall and may Read Divine service, Homilies, and such other good authors of Practical Divinity as shall be appointed, at the usual times in such Church or Chappels, and therein shall Demean himself according to y^e Liturgy of y^e Church of England as afores^d.

And for Preventing of Delays & other Inconveniencies wth might happen, if there were a Necessity for y^e Expecting y^e attendance & presence of all y^e s^d Vestrymen; and at y^e same time to prevent y^e doing anything of Consequence by surprize by a small number of them; Be it hereby Enacted, That y^e first Tuesday in every month shall be and is hereby fixed & ascertained for y^e holding of a Vestry, at Eleven of y^e Clock in y^e forenoon, In y^e usual place for y^e purpose, wthout any notice or warning to be given thereof. At wth time & place the Major part of the Vestry-men then p^{re}s^{en}t (so as such Majority be not under the number of three persons) shall be esteemed as a Vestry, and shall have power to order, direct, & act in all things by this Act appointed, to be done according to this act as a vestry. And that in case any vestryman shall remove or wthdraw himself from y^e Parish, or voluntarily frequently neglect to give his attendance, and absent himself from y^e vestry, or otherwise become unfit or incapable to Continue to Execute such office or Trust, that in any such Case, the Residue of y^e s^d Vestry, or the Majority of them (so as such Majority be not under three persons) shall & may have power (after personal notice given to such party, if it Conveniently may be, or y^e affixing of a Publick notice upon y^e great door of y^e Church for three Sundays successively, if personal notice cannot be given wthout great Difficulty, charge, or Delay, of their Intentions to proceed in such manner) to Remove such person from being a vestryman, & to declare his office void, and to summon a meeting of y^e Parishioners, qualified as directed, for the Electing of another in y^e place of such person, who shall (after allowing a reasonable time to such person to make his Complaint, if he apprehends himself Injured, not exceeding a fortnight) proceed to a new election Accordingly.

And That there may not be any oppression or Mis-application of y^e publick Revenue of such Vestries, or Just Cause of Complaint against them,

in any of their Proceedings, w^hout Redress; Be it Enacted by the Authority, advice, & Consent afores^d, That all & every Parishioner & Parishioners whatsoever, who Contribute to y^e Publick Taxes & Charges of y^e s^d Parish, shall & May require y^e Register herein before mencioned, at any Reasonable & Conven^t time or times, to give y^m an Inspection of y^e Vestry Books & acc^{ts} of all and Every their proceedings, And shall & may take Copies thereof (paying a reasonable fee for y^e same, according to the Length thereof, And y^e trouble of attendances). And y^t all & every person & persons w^hsoever, who shall find or apprehend him, her, or themselves grieved or Injured, or y^e body of y^e s^d Parish is Injured or oppressed by any Act, orders, Rules, Accounts, or other proceedings of any such Vestry, The Parties so Injured, or any others in their behalf, or in y^e Right of y^e whole Body, may from Time to time Appeal for Redress against all and every such orders, accounts, & other proceedings, To y^e Governour or Deputy-Governour for y^e time Being and Council of y^e s^d Province, who are Hereby Required & Impowered to Examine, hear, & determine all & every such Appeal & Complaint for Redress, and to give Redress, as they in their Judgm^t shall think agreeable to Justice & Equity; And such their order, Judgm^t, & Decree shall be Final, & bind all Parties, The Right of Appeal being always Reserved to his Majesty in Council, according to the Laws of this Province.

PROVIDED always y^t every of his Maj^{ty}'s Protestant subjects w^hin this Province Dissenting from y^e Church of England as to Matters relating to y^e Worship & service of Almighty God, and the Dissenters Called Quakers, in all matters relating to y^e taking of Oaths; and all Protestant Dissenters w^hsoever, as to all Charges & Exemptions from Penalties, or forfeitures upon acc^t of their Dissenting, Separate Meetings, or other matters wherein Toleration & Ease is granted to Protestant Dissenters by one Act Made in y^e first year of y^e Reign of his Present Majesty & his late Consort, Queen Mary, of blessed Memory, Intituled an Act for Exempting their Maj^{ty}'s Protestant subjects Dissenting from y^e Church of England from y^e penalties of Certain Laws; And by another Act Made in the Seventh and Eighth year of y^e Reign of his present Majesty, Intituled, An Act y^t the Solemn affirmation or declaration of y^e People Called Quakers shall be accepted instead of an Oath, in y^e usual form, shall have y^e full benefit of all Exemptions, ease, & Indulgencies by y^e s^d Acts granted and allowed, according to y^e true intent & meaning of y^e s^d Acts; they Respectively Conforming themselves in their Meeting &

assembling, and in all other things, to The orders & Rules enjoyned by y^e s^d Acts, w^{ch} this alteration only, that the several things required & appointed by y^e s^d Acts to be done by or at y^e General or Quarter Sessions of y^e Peace, or any other Court whatsoever, or by or to any one single Justice of y^e Peace, shall be done by, to, & at y^e Respective County Courts of this Province w^{ch}in whose Jurisdiction the Matter shall fall out, & before, to, or by y^e Justices of y^e same. And y^e the several Places used for Religious Worship by any such Dissenting Congregation or Assembly, shall be certified unto & Registered at y^e s^d County Court in y^e same manner as is by y^e s^d first-mentioned Act appointed to be done, To y^e Bishop of y^e Diocese, y^e Arch-Deacon of y^e Arch Deaconry, and y^e Justices of y^e Peace, at y^e General or Quarter Sessions; PROVIDED also and be it further Enacted, y^e one Act made at a General Assembly, begun & held at y^e Port of Annapolis y^e Twenty-sixth day of April, 1700, Intituled, An Act for y^e Service of Almighty God, and Establishment of Religion in this Province, according to y^e Church of England, &c^t, be and is hereby Repealed and made void.

Observation.

This Act had the Royall assent, w^{ch} noe other of our Laws have had, Except that about the Free school at Annapolis. It is the Foundation of the Clergy's maintainance and the Settle^mt of the Church of England in this Province; but how far it is Incroached upon by subsequent acts will appear by the observations upon them.

At a Session of Assembly, begun and held at y^e Town and Port of Anapolis, in Ann Arrundel County, y^e fifth day of September, in y^e 3^d year of y^e Reign of our Sovereign Lady Anne, by y^e Grace of God, of England, Scotland, France, & Ireland, Queen, Defender of y^e Faith, &c^e, and in y^e year of our Lord 1704.

An Act for the Confirming Titles of Land Given to y^e use of y^e Churches & several Chappels w^hin this Province, Impowering y^e Commissioners of y^e respective Counties, and y^e vestrys of y^e respective Parishes, to take up Certain parcels of Land for y^e use of y^e same.

WHEREAS several Pious & well-disposed Persons have given & granted unto the respective Parishes whereto they belong, Certain parcels of ground for y^e use & benefit of a Church & Churchyard, which s^d Land, through y^e neglect of y^e Vestrys, who, by an Act of Assembly of this Province, Made at a Session of Assembly, held at y^e Port of Anapolis, y^e 20th day of July, Anno Dom. 1696, Entituled an act for y^e service of Almighty God, and Establishm^t of the Protestant Religion, were Capacitated & Impowered by y^e names of y^e principal vestry-man & y^e rest of his brethren, vestry-men of such Parish, to take & receive any Deed of gift for y^e same; Notwithstanding y^e Charges of y^e respective Parishes in building Churches or Chappels thereon, is like to be lost, or the Title thereunto very disputable, for want of such Deed of gift or Conveyance Enrolled or Recorded, as by an Act of Assembly is required, the first Donors or Grantors thereof being dead, and the Heires of such Donors or Grantors either refusing to make over such Land, as afores^d, or under age, not Capable of so doing.

Be it Therefore Enacted by y^e Queen's Most Excellent Majesty, by & wth y^e Advice & Consent of her Maj^{ty}'s Governour, Council, & Assembly of this Province, & the authority of the same, That all such Lands as have been formerly given to the use of any Church or Chappell, & for wth y^e Donors or

Grantors thereof, in their lifetime, have not made a Deed of gift for y^e same, or otherwise refuse so to do; & in Confidence of whose Promise y^e Parishes have been at y^e Charge of Erecting & building their Churches thereon: be and Remain to y^e use of y^e Parish for ever against all Claimes & Pretensions of Claimes made, or that hereafter shall be made by such Donors or Grantors, or by his or their Heires, Exec^{rs}, or assigns, as firmly and Absolutely as if y^e same had been made over by Deed of Gift, Grant, or otherwise Enrolled and Recorded as afores^d.

And To the end y^t it may be known what Lands have been so given to y^e use of any Church or Chappel as afores^d, and Made over & Confirmed by Deed of Gift or Grant, as afores^d, The Grand Jury in each respective County wthin this Province, Next after y^e publication of this Act, shall have in Charge to Enquire by what Title such Lands . . . whereupon the several Churches or Chappels afores^d wthin their respective Parishes, and in their Precincts, are held, and to render an acc^t Thereof to y^e Court, who are hereby Impowered, where any such Lands shall appear to be given, & not Confirmed, as aforesaid, In open Court to Examine Witnesses in *Perpetuam rei Memoriam*, and the same Cause to be Recorded in the County Records, w^{ch} shall be deemed adjudged, and taken in all Courts of Record wthin this Province, as sufficient Proof of y^e Donation or Grant, as also of y^e Quantity of Acres given or granted as afores^d. And in Case it shall appear upon such Examination y^t Lands have been given for y^e use of any Church, Chappel, or Churchyard, as afores^d, but y^e Quantity thereof not mentioned by y^e Donors or Grantors thereof, as afores^d, that then & in every such Case the vestry of the respective Parish where such Gift or Grant hath been Made, and The Quantity not ascertained, as afores^d, may demand & take of such Lands, for y^e use of y^e Church, and thereto adjacent, Two Acres & no more, w^{ch} They shall cause to be survey'd & staked out, and make Returns of two Certificates thereof, one of w^{ch} must be Recorded in y^e County Court, & y^e other in y^e High Court of Chancery, there to be Registered in *Perpetuam rei Memoriam*, as afores^d.

And be it further Enacted by y^e Authority afores^d, by & wth y^e advice & Consent afores^d, That where the Vestry of any Parish wthin this Province have or shall think Convenient to Place either Church or Chappel of Ease within their respective Parishes, for the better Conveniency of their Parishioners; but y^e owner or owners of such land Chosen out and appointed by such Vestry, as afores^d, for y^e use of their Parish aforesaid, either Refuse to make

sale thereof, or are unreasonable in his or their demands for y^e same, or otherwise Incapacitated by Non Age, *Non Sana Memoria*, or beyond Sea, That then & in every such Case, the Respective vestry's of y^e Respective Parishes shall apply themselves to the Commissioners of y^e Cou^{ty} Court whereto they belong, upon whose application the s^d Commissioners shall forthwth grant their Warrants to y^e sheriff of their County, thereby Requiring him at a Certain day & time to be by them nominated and appointed; to Impannel a Jury of substantial Freeholders next adjacent to the Land in Quest afores^d, w^{ch} s^d Commissioners and Jury afores^d shall proceed in all things as by another Act of Assembly (entitled an Act Impowering y^e Commissioners of the several & respective Counties to take up & purchase Land for their County Court Houses) they are directed, not Exceeding two acres, as before in this Act mentioned & Exprest; anything in this Act or any other ordained to the Contrary Notwithstanding.

This was a very necessary Law, and in itself most reasonable.

At a Sessions of Assembly begun and held at y^e Town and Port of Anapolis, in Ann Arrundel Cou^{ty}, y^e fifth day of September, In y^e Third year of y^e Reign of our Sovereign Lady Ann, by the Grace of God of England, Scotland, Ffrance, & Ireland, Queen, Defender of y^e ffaith, &c., And in y^e year of our Lord 1704.

An Act Impowering y^e Commissioners of y^e County Courts to Levy & Raise Tobacco To defray y^e Necessary Charges of Their Counties & Parishes.

Be it Enacted by y^e Queen's most Excellent Maj^{ty}, by & wth y^e advice & consent of her Maj^{ty}'s Council & Assembly of this Province, & by y^e Authority of the same, That for the Future it shall & may be lawful to & for

the severall & Respective Commissioners of y^e severall & respective County Courts w^hin this Province, at their severall & Respective County Courts, to be held for their Counties, upon Examination had before them, of the Publick Charges of their severall and Respective Counties, & allowances by them made of y^e same, To Levey & Raise Tobacco for Paym^t & satisfaction of y^e severall and respective Cou^{ty} Charges, & the sheriff's salary for y^e Collecting thereof, by an equal assessm^t of y^e Taxable P^{er}sons of y^e s^d severall Cou^{ties}, any former Law, usage, or Custome to the Contrary in any wise notwithstanding.

And be it further Enacted by y^e authority, advice, & Consent afores^d, That y^e Clerk of each respective Cou^{ty} w^hin this Province shall keep an acc^t of such Tobacco Levied, & how disposed off, in a fair book, apart from other matters; & a true Copy thereof, under the hand of y^e Respective Cou^{ty} Clerk, & under y^e seal of y^e s^d Cou^{ty}, by y^e s^d Cou^{ty} Cl^{er}ks, be yearly & every year transmitted to the Govern^r & Council of this Province, before the Tenth day of March next ensuing, after y^e Laying of y^e Levey for their Inspection.

And be it further Enacted by y^e Authority, advice, and consent afores^d, That if any Clerk of any Cou^{ty} Court afores^d shall neglect to transmit a Copy of such acc^t as afores^d before y^e Tenth day of March as afores^d, yearly & every year, he shall forfeit and pay to our Sovereign Lady y^e Queen, her heires & successors, the sum of one Thousand pounds of Tobacco, one half to her Maj^{ty}, her heires & successors, for y^e support of Government, the other half to the Informer, or him or them that will sue for y^e same, to be recovered by action of Debt, bill, plaint, or Information, in any Court of this Province, wherein no Essoyn, Protection, or Wager of Law be allowed.

And for Purchasing Register Books, and for Repairing of Churches, it is prayed y^e it may be Enacted, And be it Enacted by y^e Queen's most Excellent Majesty, by and w^h y^e advice and Consent of her Maj^{ty}'s Govern^r, Council, & Assembly of this Province, and the authority of y^e same, That when and as often as the necessity of each Respective Parish shall require Repairs or supplies, the Vestry men, and Church Wardens thereof shall apply themselves, to the Justices of y^e Cou^{ty} Courts, at the time of laying y^e Cou^{ty} Levy, who upon the necessity appearing to them, shall & are hereby Impower'd to raise by an equal assessm^t by y^e Poll, on y^e Inhabitants of such Respective Parish, such sums of Tobacco, as by y^e s^d Justices shall be adjudged necessary to supply y^e occasions afores^d over and above y^e Cou^{ty} Levy, not exceeding

y^e sum of ten pounds of Tobacco ꝑ Poll in one year, w^{ch} sum so Raised, shall be Collected by y^e Sheriff of y^e same County, and Paid to y^e Vestry Men of each Respective Parish or parishes, at The Rate of five ꝑ Cent. for his salary.

And be it further enacted, by y^e Authority advice and Consent afores^d, That where there is no Minister Resident in the Parish, The Vestrymen of each respective parish in This Province, shall keep a fair account of y^e disposition of the forty pounds of Tobacco ꝑ poll, Levied, in their Parish, according to y^e Act entituled an Act for Establishment of Religious Worship &^{ca}: and also of y^e Ten pounds of Tobacco ꝑ Poll, to be levied, and raised, by vertue of this Act, and a true Copy thereof, under the hands of such principal Vestryman, or four of his brethren, of longest standing, shall yearly and every year be transmitted to y^e Govern^r and Council of this Province, before the tenth day of March, for their Inspection.

And be it further Enacted by y^e authority advice & Consent afores^d; that if y^e Principal vestryman and four of his brethren, shall neglect to transmitt a copy of such acc^t, as afores^d, before y^e Tenth day of March afores^d, yearly and every year, they shall forfeit and pay to our Sovereign Lady y^e Queen, her heirs and successors, the sum of one thousand pounds of tobacco, one half to her Maj^{ty} for suport of Govern^r; the other half to y^e Informer, or him or them, that will sue for the same. To be recovered by action of Debt, bill, Plaint or Information, in any Court of Record of this Province wherein no Essoyn, Protection, or wager of Law, to be allowed.

Observation.

This Act is a manifest Ineroachm^t on the first, viz^t: the Act for Establishm^t of Religious worship. Sufficent Provision was made by it for purchaseing Register books and repairing of Churches, and there needed not any further; but the design of this is, to render the Tax precarious; before, the vestry were sole Judges how much (not exceeding Ten ꝑ poll) to raise for the use of the Church and parish; but this act puts it into the power of the Justices of the County Court to allow what they please or noe part, if they see fitt, w^{ch} will be (I'm afraid) of very ill consequence to y^e Church.

At a Sessions of Assembly begun and held at y^e Town and Port of Anapolis in Ann Arrundel County, the 27 day of 8th in y^e Eleventh year of y^e Reign of our Sovereign Lady Anne, by y^e Grace of God of England, Scotland, France, & Ireland, Queen, Defender of y^e Ffaith, &c^o, and in y^e year of our Lord 1713, The Hono^{ble} Edw^d Lloyd, President of Her Maj^{ty}'s Council of y^e Province afores^d.

An Act Impowering y^e Justices of y^e several County Courts wthin this Province to Regulate y^e bounds of y^e several Parishes wthin their Respective Counties, when disputable, and for ascertaining the time & Manner when & how y^e forty pounds of Tobacco & poll shall become due & payable to y^e Minister and Incumbent of each Parish.

FORASMUCH as it hath been Represented to This General Assembly, y^t for want of due care in y^e first Division of y^e several Parishes wthin this Province. The bounds of many of y^e s^d Parishes remain very uncertain, & disputable, wth heretofore hath been, and hereafter may be y^e occasion of many doubts & controversies as well between y^e several Incumbents, as y^e Vestries of such Parishes, for Prevention whereof for y^e Future,

Be it Enacted by y^e Queen's Most Excellent Majesty, by & wth y^e advice & consent of her Majesty's President, Council & Assembly of this Province, and the Authority of y^e same. That from and after the end of this Present Sessions of Assembly, it shall & may be lawful for y^e Justices, of y^e several County Courts wthin this Province, or the Major Part of them, where y^e bounds of any Parish or Parishes wthin their respective Counties are uncertain, or ambiguously expressed, to ascertain and regulate them for y^e future, and after having so done, to Cause their Proceedings therein, to be entred in the Records of their County Courts, there to remain, for the satisfaction of

those that at any time hereafter shall have occasion to have Recourse thereunto.

And whereas, some Parishes are so divided, as that they are partly Contained in two Counties,

Be it therefore enacted by y^e authority afores^d, by & wth y^e advice & Consent afores^d, That in every such Case the Justices of y^e County Court wherein the disputable bounds of such Parish is contained, or y^e Major part of them shall determine the same, And Cause such their determination to be entred in y^e Records of their County Court as afores^d.

And whereas it appears to this General Assembly, that there is not as yet any Provision Made, by any Law of this Province, when and after what manner the forty pounds of Tobacco ʒ Poll shall become due, & payable to the Ministers, and Incumbents, of the several Parishes within this Province w^{ch} heretofore hath been y^e occasion of Many disputes.

Be it Therefore enacted by y^e authority, advice, & Consent afores^d, That when any Minister shall at any time hereafter be lawfully admitted or Inducted into any Parish wⁱⁿ this Province, he shall not by vertue of such his admission or Induction have, demand, or receive from the vestry of such Parish the whole forty pounds of Tobacco ʒ Poll, for y^e year in w^{ch} he is admitted or Inducted; but only such Proportionable part of the same, as shall be found to be his due, Computing y^e time from y^e day of his Induction, to the time of laying y^e next Levy for y^e County in w^{ch} his Parish lies. And when it shall so happen y^e any Minister, or Incumbent, who hath been a Resident in any Parish wⁱⁿ this Province, shall dye, or remove out of his Parish, Then & in such Cases the vestry of y^e Parish wherein he was Incumbent, shall at y^e time of laying the next Levy for their County, pay to such Minister, if he be alive, or to his Exec^r, or Adm^r, if he be dead; such proportionable part of y^e forty pounds of Tobacco ʒ Poll, as shall be due to him, for such part of y^e year as he continued in y^e s^d Parish, Computing y^e same from the time of the laying the last levy for y^e s^d County: until the time of such his death or Removal. And if any Minister or Incumbent, that shall at any time hereafter, be admitted or Inducted into any Parish wⁱⁿ this Province, shall dye or remove again out of the same, before any levy be laid in that County where the s^d Parish lies; then y^e vestry of the s^d Parish shall, at y^e time of laying y^e next levy in their Cou^{ty}, Pay to such Minister (if he be alive, or to his exec^r or Adm^r if he be dead) so Much of the forty pounds of Tobacco ʒ Poll as shall be due

to him, Computing y^e same from the Time of his admission, or Induction, to the time of his Death or removal, & no more, any law, statute, or Custom to The Contrary notwithstanding.

This Law supposes the vestrys to have a power to dispose of the forty p poll where there is noe Incumbent, w^{ch} I cannot find they had by any prior Law, not by the Act for Establishm^t of religious worship, soe that this is still a further Incroachment on y^e act.

At a Session of Assembly begun and held at y^e City of Anapolis, y^e Twenty sixth day of April in y^e first year of the Reign of our sovereign Lord George, by the Grace of God of Great Brittain France and Ireland, King Defender of y^e Ffaith &c^a, Annoq^{ue} Domini 1715.

An Act to Declare how the forty pounds of tobacco p Poll in such Parishes, where there is No Incumbent, shall be disposed of.

WHEREAS by an Act of Assembly made at a General Assembly begun & held at y^e Port of Anapolis y^e sixteenth day of March, 1701, Entitled, an Act for y^e Establishm^t of Religious Worship in this Province, according to y^e Church of England, and for the Maintenance of Ministers. There is no Provisiion made where there is a vacancy & no Incumbent in a Parish, how or to what use the forty pounds of Tobacco p Poll shall be applied.

Therefore the Burgesses and Delegates of this present General Assembly pray y^e it may be enacted.

And be it Enacted by y^e Kings most Excellent Maj^{ty}, by & wth y^e advice, and Consent of his Maj^{ty}s Governour, Council, and Assembly of This Province, & y^e authority of the same. That what Tobacco of y^e s^d forty pounds p poll, hath, is, or shall become due, in any Parish where there is, hath, or shall be no Incumbent, the s^d Tobacco shall be employed, & applied to, & for the uses following. (That is to say) By the vestrymen of each respective Parish who

are hereby empowered to dispose thereof; for & towards y^e repairing of such Churches as are already Built; finishing and Compleating y^e insides thereof, as the s^d vestry Men shall think fit, or for y^e purchasing a Pulpit Cloth, Cushion, Bible, or Common Prayer books or Church Plate for y^e use of y^e s^d Church. And if any vestry hath already applied or laid out the s^d Tobacco, or any part thereof to y^e uses afores^d such application or disposal is hereby confirmed.

And be it further Enacted by y^e authority aforesaid. That in any Parish where y^e Church is old, or so out of Repair, as not fit to be made use of, and shall be so adjudged, by y^e vestrymen, of such Parish, it shall & may be lawful, to & for, such vestrymen to apply the s^d forty pounds of tobacco ꝑ poll, for y^e building of a New one, and if it hath, or shall so happen, by reason of a Long vacancy in such Parish; that there shall be no occasion, to apply y^e s^d tobacco to y^e uses aforesaid, or if any such Tobacco after such application, hath or shall remain in y^e hands of y^e vestry, the s^d vestry are hereby directed & empowered to purchase therewth, either a plantation, wth a tract of Land or a Certain tract of Land, as near & Contiguous to the Church, belonging to such Parishes, as may be. (And if there be no Church in such Parishes then to Purchase, a tract of Land as may be most conven^t for y^e Inhabitants thereof & build a Church thereon) w^{ch} plantation or land shall be and for ever remain as a Glebe to y^e use of y^e Ministers of such Parish, for y^e time being, who shall be lawfully Inducted and appointed, according to y^e usage of y^e Church of England and of this Province. And if there shall happen in any Parish, to be tobacco over & above answering the use afores^d, it shall be Employed to the Improvement and stocking such Glebe, as y^e vestry shall judge most proper.

And forasmuch as by the s^d Revised Act there is nothing allowed to y^e sheriff for collecting y^e forty pounds of tobacco ꝑ poll & paying y^e same to the Incumbent or vestry.

Be it Enacted by y^e Authority aforesaid. That y^e Sheriff of each respective County, shall have allowed him, or them, out of the s^d forty pounds of tobacco ꝑ poll, w^{ch} they shall pay to such vestry, or Incumb^t; five pounds of tobacco ꝑ Cent: for Collecting & paying the same, & no more, any law statute or usage to the Contrary Notwthstanding.

The uses to w^{ch} the Fourty ꝑ poll is directed by this act I take to be very good and Commendable, provided there was an allowance in it to dispose of

some part towards Inviteing over able ministers, and provided the vestry's would honestly pursue the directions of the act as I observed in answer to one of the Queries.

But there is in the last clause of the act a most Intolerable Incroachment on the act for Establishment of religious worship, that directed the Sheriff to Collect and gather the fourty ℥ poll in the same manner and by the same authority as the publick and County Levies are collected, and to pay the same to y^e minister or Incumbent.

Now the publick and County Levies are paid to the severall officers Intire without any deduction, and the Sherriff has a salary out of the publick and Counties for Collection and soe it ought to be as to y^e Fourty ℥ poll, but this act gives Five ℥ Cent (contrary to y^e Intent of the primitive Law) out of the Fourty ℥ poll to the Sheriff for Collection w^{ch} takes of two ℥ poll and reduces the fourty to thirty eight.

This (in my humble opinion) is manifest Injustice, wee were Invited over here on the view of Fourty ℥ poll, and since they have got us here they have taken off 2 ℥ poll, and if this passes unregarded, they may pair it away to nothing.

At a Session of Assembly begun & held at the Town & Port of Anapolis in Ann Arundel County, y^e fifth day of September, in y^e Third year of y^e reign of our Sovereign Lady Anne, by the Grace of God of England, Scotland, France, and Ireland, Defender of y^e Faith, &c^a, & in y^e year of our Lord, 1704.

An Act for securing the Parochial Libraries of This Province.

BE IT ENACTED by y^e Queen Most Excellent Maj^{ty}, by & wth y^e advice & Consent of her Maj^{ty}'s Governour, Council & Assembly of this Province, & by

y^e authority of the same, That y^e Libraries appointed for y^e several & Respective Parishes w^hin this Province, shall be and remain, in y^e Hands & Possession of y^e Minister of the Parish, if there be any Minister actually Inducted into, & Incumbent in the s^d Parish, during his Residence in y^e s^d Parish, who is by this Act obliged to keep and preserve y^e s^d Library from Wast & Imbezelm^t, & to be accountable for y^e same to the Governour, Council, and Assembly as often as required.

And To that purpose y^e s^d Minister shall pass Two Receipts for y^e s^d Books, incerting w^h they are, & The Title Page of y^e same, one Receipt to be by the vestry of the s^d Parish transmitted to the Governour and Council, and the other to remain w^h y^e vestry of the s^d Parish, to be entred in their Register Book. And the s^d vestry's are hereby obliged to visit y^e s^d Libraries twice in y^e year, & Inspect the same.

And in Case the s^d vestry's shall not (or at least four of them of eldest standing) shall not visit the s^d Libraries twice in y^e year as by this Act is required, the whole number of vestrymen shall forfeit & pay the sum of fourteen Hundred pounds of tobacco, one Moiety to her Maj^{ty}, her heires & successors, for The support of Governm^t, the other moiety to the Informer, or him or them, y^t shall sue for y^e same in any Court of Record in this Province, by Action of debt, Bill, Plaint, or Information wherein no essoyn Protection, or wager of Law to be allowed, and y^e *onus probandi* shall lie on y^e part of y^e Vestry to make it appear that they have visited the libraries as by this Act they are obliged.

And if it so happen y^t the vestry find any Damage or Imbezlem^t thereof, they shall require and Cause satisfaction for y^e same to be made by Action of Debt, to be brought against y^e s^d Minister, his Exec^{rs} or Adm^{rs}, for y^e full value of such books as are or shall be wanting, to be Commenced and brought by y^e vestry-Men of such Respective Parish where such damage or Imbezlem^t shall happen, who by this Act are Impowered to bring their special Action w^hout their principal vestryman.

And in Case any Minister, having y^e Charge of such Library, shall be Removed from his Charge, he shall deliver y^e s^d Library, to y^e vestry of y^e s^d Parish, & make satisfaction or Reparation, if any damage or wast suffered; before his departure, out of y^e s^d Parish (Except by fire or such unavoidable accident), or in Case of y^e Death, of any such Ministers, having y^e Charge of such Library, the vestry of such Parish shall immediately take y^e s^d Library

into their Custody and keeping, and pass their receipt for y^e same, as above directed. And shall in all points be answerable for y^e same (Except by fire or such like accident as aforesaid).

And for y^e better preserving & keeping and securing y^e s^d Libraries, it shall & may be lawful for his Excellency the Governour of this Province, for y^e time being, to appoint one, or more, visitors of y^e s^d Libraries wthin this Province, to Report the true state of them to his Excellency the Governour & Council, that they may make ordⁿ to Cause every one Concerned about y^e s^d Libraries to do their duties, to y^e Effectuai preserving of them.

At a Session of Assembly begun and held at y^e Town and Port of Anapolis, in Ann Arundel Cou^{ty}, y^e fifth day of September, in y^e Third year of y^e Reign of our Sovereign Lady Anne, by the Grace of God of England, Scotland, France, & Ireland, Queen, Defender of y^e Faith, &c., and in the year of our Lord, 1704.

An Act for Publication of Marriages.

BE IT ENACTED by y^e Queens Most Excellent Maj^{ty}, by & wth y^e advice, & Consent of her Maj^{ty}s Governour, Council, & Assembly of this Province, and y^e authority of the same, That all persons who desire marriage, shall apply themselves either to a Minister, Pastor, or Magistrate, for the Contracting thereof.

And be it further Enacted by y^e authority afores^d, by & wth y^e advice and Consent afores^d, That all persons wthin this Province intending Marriage, shall make Publication thereof either at y^e Church, Chappel, County Court, or Meeting house next where they dwell, & y^t at such time when such Church, Chappel or meeting house shall be full, and thereby capable to take Cognizance thereof; and that it shall and may be lawful, upon Certificate had from

the Minister, Pastor, or County Court where such Publication shall have been Made, three weeks after the s^d publication, for either Minister, Pastor, or Magistrate (where no Minister can be had) to Joyn in marriage such Persons as afores^d. And if any person shall presume to Contract Marriage wthout such publication made, and Certificate thereof had, as afores^d, or wthout perticular license from the Governour for the time being, do privately, wthin y^e Limits of this Province, Contract marriage, every person so Contracted or married shall be lyable to a fine of one Thousand pounds of tobacco, and every such Minister, Pastor, or Magistrate Joyning in marriage any persons wthout such publication or License, or anyways infringing this Act, shall be liable to a fine of five thousand pounds of tobacco, one half of y^e s^d Fines to our sovereign Lady y^e Queen, her heires, & successors, for y^e support of the Governm^t of this Province, and y^e other half to the Informer, to be recovered by bill, Plaint, Action of Debt, or information in any court of Record, wherein no Essoyn, Protection or Wager of Law to be allowed.

And be it further Enacted by y^e authority afores^d, by and wth y^e advice & Consent afores^d, That all Ministers, Pastors, and Magistrates who, according to y^e law of this Province, do usually Joyn People in marriage, shall Joyn them in Manner and form, as is set down and exprest in the Liturgy of y^e Church of England, w^{ch} being finished, the Minister, Pastor, or Magistrate shall say, I being thereunto by Law authorized, Do Pronounce you Lawfull Man & wife.

And be it further Enacted, by y^e Authority, advice & Consent afores^d, That y^e Minister, Pastor, or Magistrate, by vertue of this Act, is Impowered to aske, demand, and receive, from y^e Parties so Married or Joyned together, the sum of one Hundred Pounds of Tobacco & no more.

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At a Session of Assembly begun & Held at y^e City of Anapolis, y^e 28th day of May, Anno Domini 1717, In The 22nd year of his Lordships Dominion, &c.

An Act for the Publication of Marriages, and to Prevent unlawful Marriages.

BE IT ENACTED, by y^e Right Hon^{ble} y^e L^d Proprietary, by & wth y^e advice & consent of his L^{dps} Gover^r, & y^e upper & Lower houses of Assembly, and by y^e authority of y^e same, That all p^{er}sons who desire marriage shall apply themselves to a Minister for y^e Contracting thereof, & shall cause due publication to be made, according to y^e Rubrick of y^e Church of England, of their intent to marry, at some Church or Chappel of Ease belonging to y^e Parish wherein y^e woman so intended to be married, shall be Resident. And in case there be no Minister, Curate, or Reader in such Parish, an advertisement or publick notification of such intended Marriage shall be set up at y^e Court House Door of y^e Cou^{ty} where such marriage shall be intended, there to remain for y^e space of three weeks at y^e least, of w^{ch} advertisem^t put up as afores^d, The Clerk of the Cou^{ty} Court where such advertisem^t shall be so put up, shall make a certificate under his hand & y^e seal of y^e Cou^{ty}, and y^t it shall & may be lawful, after such publication and Certificate thereof had, for any Minister duly qualified to Joyn together in Matrimony, any such p^{er}sons so published according to y^e Liturgy of y^e Church of England, saving to y^e Minister of y^e Respective parishes where such publication shall be made, their just dues for such marriages. And if any person presume to Contract marriage, without such publication & certificate thereof had as afores^d, or wthout particular license from y^e Governour for y^e Time being, do privately contract marriage, every man so contracted or married shall be liable to a fine of Five thousand pounds of tobacco. And every such Minister Joyning in marriage any p^{er}son's wthout publication or license, or any ways infringing this Act, shall be liable to a fine of five thousand pounds of tobacco, y^e one half of y^e s^d fine to y^e L^d Proprietary, his heires, and successors, for y^e support of Governm^t of this Province, the other half to y^e Informer, to be recovered in any Court of

Record by Action of Debt, plaint, bill or Information, wherein no Essoyn, Protection, or wager of Law to be allowed. And for the more effectual avoiding secesie, & Clandestine Marriages.

Be it enacted by y^e Authority, advice & consent aforesaid, That any person or p^{er}sons Resident in this Province, who shall get their marriage solemnized in any y^e neighbouring Colonies, during such their residence in this Province, unless where y^e woman so married shall be a resident of y^e place where such marriage shall be solemnized, the Man so married shall be liable to a fine of five thousand pounds of Tobacco, to be recovered as afores^d, to y^e use afores^d. And for ascertaining to y^e Minister a fee for Marriages in other cases y^a the Act for Establishm^t of Religious Worship provides for.

Be it enacted y^t in case any p^{er}sons married by license, and y^t shall be married in y^e Parish Church, or Chappel of ease, or come to such Ministers house, to be married, there shall be paid as a fee by y^e p^{er}sons to be married, for such marriage, the sum of ten shillings and no more. And in Case of publication of Banns, the p^{er}son to be married shall come to y^e Minister's dwelling house to be married, there shall be paid to y^e minister as a fee for such marriage, one hundred pounds of tobacco, or six shillings & eight pence currant money & no more. And 'tis hereby declared, whenever any ffee is allowed for marrying p^{er}sons whose banns are published, such fee shall be taken for a full fee for the publication of y^e banns as well as for y^e Solemnization of such Marriage.

Provided, that this Act or anything therein contained shall not extend or be construed to extend to any p^{er}sons of perswasions in Religion different from that of y^e Church of England; but y^t all such p^{er}sons and the manner of their proceedings in marriage, may entirely remain unaltered by this Act, and in y^e same circumstance as if this Act had never been made, any thing therein before to y^e contrary notwthstanding.

At an Assembly held at y^e Port of Anapolis the First day of July, in the 8th year of y^e Reign of our Sovereign Lord King William 3^d., Anno^q: Domini, 1696, Francis Nicholson, Governour.

A Petitionary Act for Free schools.

TO HIS MOST EXCELLENT MAJESTY.

DREAD SOVERAIGN,

From the sincerity of our humble & Loyal Hearts, wee offer to y^e sacred person our most dutiful and sincere thanks, for y^e Royal care and protection, to us, for y^e Maj^{ties} Princely Zeal & pious Care of our Mother the Church of England; and extending y^e Royal Benediction to our Neighbouring Colony, y^e Maj^{ties} subjects, & Territory of Virginia, in y^e Gracious Grant & Charter for the Propagation of y^e Colledge or place of universal study, that y^e Maj^{ties} s^d Colony. In humble Contemplation whereof and being excited by his present Excellency, Francis Nicholson, Esq^r; yo^r Maj^{ties} Gover^r of this Province, his Zeal for y^e Maj^{ties} service, Pious endeavours, & Generous offers, for y^e Propagation of Christianity & good Learning, herein; Wee become humble suitors to y^e Most sacred Maj^{ty}, to extend y^e Royal Grace and favour to us, y^e Maj^{ties} subjects of this Province, Represented in this y^e Maj^{ties} General Assembly thereof, That it may be Enacted.

And may it be Enacted by y^e Kings most Excellent Maj^{ty}, by & wth y^e advice, Prayer, and consent of this present General Assembly & y^e authority of y^e same. That for y^e Propagation of the Gospel & y^e education of y^e youth, of this Province in good Letters and manners, That a Certain place, or places for a Free school or schools, or place of study of Latine, Greek, Writing and y^e like, Consisting of one Master, one usher, and one Writing Master or scribe to a school, & one hundred scholars, more or less, according to y^e ability of y^e s^d Free school may be erected, founded, propagated, and established

* See Bacon's Laws of Md., Chap. 17. 1696.

under y^r Royal Patronage. And y^t the most Rever^d Father in God, Thomas, by Divine Providence, L^d Arch Bishop of Canterbury Primate, and Metropolitan of all England, may be Chancellour of y^e s^d schools, and y^t to perpetuate y^e Memory of y^r Maj^{ty} it may be called King William's school, and managed by Certain Trustees, to be Chosen, and appointed by y^r sacred Maj^{ty}, (to Wit) —as also by y^r following Trustees Nominated and appointed by this present General Assembly (That is to say) by y^r Maj^{ty} s^d Govern^r, Francis Nicholson, Esq^r. The Hono^{ble} S^r Tho : Laurence Barronet, Coll. George Robothom, Coll. Charles Hutchins, Coll. John Addison, of y^r Maj^{ty} s^d most Hono^{ble} Council of this Province; The Rever^d M^r. Peregrine Cony & M^r. Joⁿ Hewit, Together wth Rob^t Smith, Kenelm Cheseldyn, Henry Coursey, Edw^d Dorsey, Thomas Ennalls, Tho^s Taskers, Francis Jenkins, W^m Dent, Thomas Smith, Edw^d. Boothby, Joⁿ Thompson, & John Bigger, gentleⁿ, or the greatest part or y^e successors of them, upon & in a certain Place of this Province Called Ann Arrundel Town, upon Severn River and at such other place or places as by the General Assembly of this Province shall be thought Convenient and fitting to be supported maintained in all time coming. And y^t y^r Maj^{ty} will for y^r Heires and successors, grant and give leave to y^e s^d Ffrancis Nicholson, Esq^r., & Trustees afores^d, or y^e major part, or y^e longest liver of them, that they may be enabled to take, hold, and enjoy, and y^t they may be apt, and capable in Law for taking, holding, and enjoying all Mannors lands, Tenents, Rents, Services, Rectories, Portions, Annuities, Pensions, wth all other Inheritances, Ffranchises, & Possessions, whatsoever, spiritual or Temporal to y^e value of Fifteen Hundred pounds sterling. And all other Goods, Chattels, Money and personal Estate w^{soever}, of y^e gift of any person w^{soever}, that is willing to bestow them for y^e for y^t use, or any other gifts, grants, assignments, Legacies, or appointm^{ts} of y^e same, or of any of them, or of any other goods w^{soever}, wth y^e express intention and trust put in them. That y^e s^d Ffrancis Nicholson and other y^e Trustees afores^d, or y^e Major Part, or y^e longest livers of them shall take and hold y^e premises, and shall Dispose of the same, and of Rents and Revenues, and Profits thereof, or of any of them, only for defraying the charges y^t shall be laid out in erecting & fitting the edifices of the s^d Ffree school or schools as they or the Major part of them shall think most expedient until the s^d Ffree school or schools shall be actually erected, founded and established, and upon trust & Intention that as soon as the s^d Ffree school or schools shall be erected & founded, the s^d Ffrancis Nicholson

& other the Trustees above named, shall from time to time and at all times hereafter, apply all Lands, Tenem^{ts}, Rents, Annuities, goods, Chattells, profits, Incomes, or advantages whatsoever, Real or personal, or as much as shall not be laid out, & bestowed upon building y^e s^d Ffree school or schools as afores^d, as shall be hereafter expressed. And y^t when y^e s^d Ffree school or schools shall be so erected & Established, the s^d Ffrancis Nicholson and other y^e Trustees above named, or y^e major part, or y^e longest liver of them, shall apply and appropriate, to y^e use, benefit, & maintenance, out of y^e Revenues, or incomes, to y^e s^d Trustees, for y^e use aforesaid the sum of one hundred and Twenty pounds sterling ꝑ annum; for y^e sallary support & maintenance of y^e s^d first menconed Ffree school Master, usher and scribe, and y^e necessary repairs & Improvem^{ts}; of y^e same as to y^e s^d Ffrancis Nicholson and Trustees afores^d the Major part or survivors of them, shall seem Expedient from time to time to ordain in y^e premises; and y^t for y^e uses and purposes afores^d, they y^e s^d Francis Nicholson & y^e Trustees afores^d, the survivours or major part of them, shall & may be Incorporated into a body Politick by y^e name of y^e Rectors, Governours, Trustees and visitors of y^e Ffree school of Maryland, wth full power to plead, & be impleaded, to sue & be sued, to defend, and be defended, to answer, and be answered, in all & every Cause, complaint and action, Real, personal, or mixt of w^{soever} kind or nature it shall be; w^{soever} Courts & places of Judicature belonging to y^e Maj^{ty}, y^e heires and successors; or by, from or under your Royal Grant or Authority. And y^t y^e Maj^{ty} will be graciously pleased to give & grant y^e special License as far as y^e Maj^{ty} see Expedient. To y^e said Ffrancis Nicholson, Esq., & y^e other Trustees afores^d, that they, or any of them, or y^t any ꝑson or ꝑsons w^{soever}, after the s^d Free school or schools is or are so erected, founded and Established, or before, may have power to give & grant assign and bequeath all or any mannors lands, tenem^{ts}, Rents, services, Portions, annuities, pensions, inheritances, Franchises and Possessions w^{soever}, spiritual or Temporal to y^e value of Fifteen Hundred pounds sterling ꝑ annum, besides all Burdens, Reprisals & reparations to them y^e s^d Ffrancis Nicholson and others, y^e Govern^{rs}, Trustees & visitors of y^e s^d Ffree schools of Maryland; the major part, or survivors, of them Incorporate, for y^e uses afores^d, to them & their successors for ever. And Further, that y^e s^d Ffrancis Nicholson and other y^e Govern^{rs}, Trustees and visitors afores^d, the longest livers & successors of them, be y^e True, sole, & undoubted visitors, Trustees, & Govern^{rs} of y^e s^d Free-School

or Schools, in perpetual succession for ever, to be Continued in y^e way & manner hereafter specified; wth full & absolute power, liberty, & authority in making & ordaining such laws, orders and rules for y^e good governm^t of y^e s^d Ffree school or schools; as to them y^e s^d Trustees, Govern^r & visitors afores^d & their successors shall from time to time, according to y^e various occasions, and Circumstances seem most fitt & requisite; All w^{ch} shall be observed by y^e master, usher, Tutors, & scholars, of y^e s^d school upon the Penalties therein Contained. PROVIDED Notwthstanding That y^e s^d Rules, Laws, & order, be no ways contrary to y^e Maj^{ties} Prerogative Royal, nor to y^e Laws & statutes of y^e Maj^{ties} Kingdom of England or Province of Maryland aforesaid, or to the Canons & Constitutions of y^e Church of England of the Church of England by law Established. And y^e they y^e said Govern^r, visitors & Trustees, aforesaid, & their successors, shall for ever be Eighteen Men, & not exceeding twenty in y^e whole, to be elected & constituted, in y^e manner hereafter specified, of w^{ch} one discreet & fitt person, y^e shall be called Rector of y^e s^d Ffree school & schools, and that from time to time, and at all times Coming, the s^d Rector shall exercise the s^d office during one year (Death and Legal disability Excepted) and after till some others of y^e s^d Visitors and Govern^r of y^e s^d school & schools, shall be duly Elected, preferred & sworn to y^e s^d office. And that from time to time & at all Times Coming after y^e s^d year is expired, or after y^e Death of y^e s^d Rector, y^e visitors or Govern^r of y^e s^d school or schools, or y^e greatest part of them, or their successors, should have Power to elect & nominate another discreet and fit person from amongst themselves, to be Rector of y^e s^d Ffree school or schools; and y^e he who is so elected, preferred and nominated into the place of Rector as afores^d, shall have power to Have, Exercise, and enjoy y^e s^d office of Rector, for one whole year (except as before Excepted) then next ensuing, and Thereafter until some other Rector of y^e s^d school or schools, shall be duly elected, preferred to, & sworn in y^e s^d office. And to perpetuate the succession of y^e said Govern^r, Rectors, & Visitors y^e as often as one or more of the Govern^r or visitors of y^e s^d school or schools shall die or remove Himself & family out of this Province, into any other Country for Good & all; that then & so often, the Rector for y^e Time being & y^e other visitors & Govern^r of y^e s^d Ffree school and schools, then surviving, & remaining wthin y^e Provinces or y^e Major part of them, shall & may have leave to elect, Nominate & choose one or more of y^e principal & better sort, of y^e Inhabitants of y^e s^d Province, into the Place or places, of y^e

s^d visitors & Governours so dead or Removed, and so to fill up the number of y^e visitors and Govern^r of y^e s^d school and schools. And that he and they so elected & chosen shall take his & their Corporal oath before y^e Rector & other visitors & Govern^r as afores^d or y^e Major part of them, well & faithfully to execute y^e s^d office; w^{ch} oath y^e Rector & two or more of y^e s^d visitors shall have power to administer. And y^t after y^e taking of the s^d oath he or they shall be of y^e Number of y^e s^d visitors & Govern^r of y^e s^d school or schools. And further, that the s^d Rector, for y^e time being, by & wth y^e advice, and Consent, of three, or more of y^e s^d Govern^r & visitors, shall and may from time to time, & as often as need shall Require & they see Convenient; call & convocate the s^d Govern^r & visitors, together to do, consult & consent to such things as for y^e propagation, good & benefit of y^e s^d Free school or schools shall be ordained & established. And that the s^d Govern^r & visitors shall & may hold such their Court, or Convocation, in such ffree school or such part thereof, as to them shall seem convenient, and shall & may, from time to time, punish any disorder, breaches, Misdemeanours or offences of any master, usher or scribe or scholars of any such free school or schools, ag^t any orders, law, or decrees of y^e s^d Govern^r & visitors afores^d; and if they find cause to alter, displace, & turn out any Master, usher, or scribe of any such school or schools, & put others in their steads and places as to y^e s^d Rectors, Govern^r, & visitors of the s^d school or schools, or y^e major part of them shall seem Convenient & fitting. And also that the s^d Rectors, Governours & visitors of y^e s^d Free school or schools, and Their successors shall have one common seal, w^{ch} they may make use of in w^{soever} cause & business belonging to them & their successors relating to the s^d office of Rectors, Govern^r and visitors of y^e s^d Free school & schools; And y^t the s^d Govern^r and visitors may have leave to break, change & renew their said seal, from time to time, at their pleasure, as they shall see most Expedient. And further, that it may please y^r Maj^{tie} to grant to y^e s^d Rector, Govern^r & visitors afores^d of y^e s^d ffree school or schools afores^d, y^t as soon as they shall be enabled by any gifts, grants, pensions, donations, or Incomes of any Mannors, Lands, Tenements or other estate w^{soever} Real or personal, Exceeding the sum of one Hundred & twenty pounds ꝑ annum allotted & allowed for support & Reparation of y^e first Free school at Severn as afores^d; that y^e as they shall be enabled as afores^d, the s^d Rector, Govern^r, & Visitors shall proceed to erect and build one other ffree school at y^e Town of OXFORD on the Eastern shore of this

Province, in Talbot Cou^{ty}, or in such other place of y^e same Cou^{ty} as to y^e Rectors, Govern^r & Visitors afores^d shall seem most expedient. And after y^e same shall be built, founded, & established, to appropriate & apply to y^e s^d Free-schools out of y^e treasure accruing to them for y^e benefit and advantage of ffree schools afores^d, over & above the one Hundred & twenty pounds ꝑ year, for y^e benefit, advantage and support of such second ffree schools, & shall & may place a Master, Usher & Scribe therein, as in y^e other first ffree school as afores^d; and shall in all respects be under y^e same benefits, Priviledges, Injunctions, & restrictions as y^e s^d first Free school. And also after y^e s^d second Free school is built, erected, funded, and furnished, the s^d Rectors, Govern^r & visitors shall, as fast as they shall be enabled as afores^d, proceed to the erecting other & more ffree schools in this Province (that is to say) In every County of this Province at present, one ffree school. And shall & may be Impowered to establish, Constitute, & enjoyn, & restrain, to & under y^e same benefits, advantages, Instructions, & Restrictions as afores^d, & appropriate and apply such & so much of y^e s^d Revenue not before disposed or ordained, to each free school as to them shall seem most Conven^t & expedient, not exceeding one hundred and Twenty pounds ꝑ annum as afores^d.

And be it hereby enacted by y^e authority afores^d, That a supplementary Act for Free schools, made at a Sessions of Assembly, begun & held at y^e City of S^t Mary's the twenty first day of September, 1694, be & is hereby utterly repealed & Made void.

At a Session of Assembly begun & held at y^e City of Annapolis, y^e 28 day of May 1717, in y^e 2^d year of his Lord^{ty} Dominion.

An Act for Laying an Additional Duty of Twenty shillings current money ꝓ Poll on all Irish serv^t being Papists to prevent the Growth of Popery, by y^e Importation of too great a number of them into this Province; And also y^e Additional duty of Twenty shillings Currant Money ꝓ poll on all Negro's for raising a fund for y^e use of Publick Schools wthin y^e several Counties of this Province.

BE IT ENACTED by y^e Right Hon^{ble} y^e L^d Proprietary, by & wth y^e advice & consent of his L^{dps} Govern^r, and y^e upper & Lower Houses of Assembly & y^e Authority of y^e same, That from and after the end of this General assembly, all Masters of ships and vessells, or others Importing Irish Serv^{ts} being Papists into this Province, by Land or by water, at y^e time of their entry shall pay unto y^e Naval officer, for y^e time being, belonging to such Port or Place where they make their Entry, the Additional sum of twenty shillings Curr^t money, over and above y^e twenty shillings sterling ꝓ poll Imposed by a former act of assembly of this Province, for every Irish serv^t so Imported, on Penalty and forfeiture of ffive pounds Curr^t money, for every serv^t that shall be by him or them Concealed at y^e time of his or their Entry, as afores^d, the one half thereof to be appropriated for defraying y^e publick charge of this Province, y^e other half to y^e Informer, or to him or them y^t shall sue for the same, to be recovered in his L^{dps} Name in any Court of Record wthin this Province, y^t shall have Jurisdiction of y^e same, by Action of Debt, bill, Plaint or Information, wherein no Essoyn, Protection or wager of Law to be allowed. And for y^e better discovery of such Irish Papists,

Be it further Enacted by y^e Authority, advice & consent afores^d, That the Naval officers, for y^e time being, belonging to y^e several and respective districts wthin this Province, be & are hereby authorized, impowered, & required to administer to every such Irish serv^t (except children under y^e age of fourteen years, to be adjudged at y^e discretion of y^e Naval officer) so imported as afores^d, the several oaths appointed ꝓ Act of Assembly, & cause

them to subscribe y^e oath of abjuration, & the Test; & all & every such serv^{ts} y^e shall refuse to take y^e Oath's & sign y^e Oath & Test as afores^d (except as before excepted), shall be, & are hereby deemed and declared Papists, for whom y^e owner or importer shall be obliged to pay y^e additional Duty as afores^d.

And be it further enacted by y^e authority, advice, & Consent afores^d, That from & after y^e time afores^d, for every Negro imported into this Province, either by land or water, the Importer or Importers of such Negro's shall pay unto y^e Naval officer afores^d, y^e sum of twenty shillings Curr^t money per poll over and above the Twenty shillings sterling per Poll Imposed by a former Act of Assembly of this Province, on y^e Penalty & forfeiture of five pounds curr^t money ꝑ poll for Every Negro kept back or unaccounted for, to be recovered as afores^d & applyed to y^e uses afores^d, w^{ch} s^d Duties of Twenty shillings Curr^t mony ꝑ poll shall, for y^e advancem^t of Learning be applyed towards y^e encouragem^t of one publick school in Every Cou^{ty} wthin this Province (that is to say), one equal share thereof towards y^e support of Each School, according to y^e directions of such act or Acts of Assembly as shall hereafter direct therein.

*An Act for y^e Encouragement of Learning & Erecting
Schools in y^e Several Counties wthin This Province.*

WHEREAS The Preceeding Assembly's for some years Past, have had much at heart y^e absolute necessity they have lain under in regard, both to Duty, & Interest, to make y^e best provision in their Power, for y^e Liberal & Pious Education of y^e Youth of this Province, and Improving their natural Abilities, & acuteness (w^{ch} seems not to be inferior to any) so as to be fitted for the discharge of their Duties in the several Stations & Employ^{ms} they may be Called to & Employed in, either in Regard to Church or state. And for y^e End laid an Imposition on sundry Commodities Exported out of & others Imported into this Province. And other Fines for y^e Raising a Fund, for the erecting & supporting a good school in each Cou^{ty} wthin this Province w^{ch} has succeeded wth such desired effect, That 'tis now thought necessary & is Prayed that it may be enacted. AND BE IT ENACTED by y^e Right Hono^{ble} y^e

Lord Proprietor, by & wth y^e advice & Consent of his Lord^{sh} Govern^r, and the upper & Lower Houses of Assembly, and y^e authority of y^e same. That in some conven^t Time after y^e end of this present Session of Assembly there shall, for y^e ends before mentioned, be erected a School in each Cou^{ty} wthin this Province; at y^e most Convenient Place, as near y^e Centre of y^e County as may be. And as may be Most Convenient for y^e boarding of Children, at y^e Discretion of y^e Visitors (or y^e Major Part of them) that are hereafter Nominated, appointed, & Impowered by this Act in each County. And be it Therefore ENACTED by y^e Authority, advice & Consent afores^d, that for y^e time being the seven several p^{er}sons hereafter named for each Cou^{ty} be and are hereby nominated, appointed, & named Visitors: and are Impowered, wth full & sufficient authority, for discharging y^e several offices, Duties, & Trusts Reposed in, & required of them by this Act, wthin y^e several & Respective Counties wherein they Reside. (That is to say) For S^t Marys County, The Rever^d Lee Massey, James Bowles, Esq^r, Nicholas Lowe, Esq^r, M^r. Samuel Williamson, Coll. Thomas Truman Greenfeild, M^r. Thomas Wanghop, and Cap^t Justinian Jordan. For Kent County, The Rever^d Rich^d Sewell, The Rever^d Alex^r Williamson, James Harris, Esq^r, Coll. Edw^d Scott, M^r. Simon Wilmer, M^r. Gidion Peirce, & M^r. Lambert Wilmer. For Ann Arundel Cou^{ty}, The Rever^d Joseph Colbatch, Coll. Sam^l Young, William Loch, Esq^r, Cap^t. Dan^l Mariartee, M^r. Charles Hammond, M^r. Richard Wharfeild and John Beale, Esq^r. For Calvert Cou^{ty}, The Rever^d M^r. Jonathan Cay, John Rowsby, Esq^r, Coll. John Mackall, Coll. John Smith, M^r. James Heigh, M^r. Walter Smith of Leonards Creek, M^r. Benjamin Mackall. For Baltimore Cou^{ty}, The Rever^d M^r. William Tibbs, Coll. John Dorsey, M^r. John Israel, Mr. Will^m Hamilton, M^r. Tho. Tolley, M^r. John Stokes, and M^r. Thomas Sheredine. For Charles Cou^{ty}, The Rever^d M^r. William Machonchie, M^r. Gustavus Brown, M^r. Geo. Dent, Cap^t. Joseph Harrison, M^r. Rob^t Hanson, M^r. Sam^l Hanson, And M^r. Randal Morris. For Talbot Cou^{ty}, The Rever^d M^r. Henry Nicholls, Coll. Mathew Tilghman Ward, Robert Ungle, Esq^r, M^r. Robert Goldsborough, M^r. William Clayton, M^r. John Oldham, and M^r. Thomas Bozman. For Somerset Cou^{ty}, The Rever^d M^r. Alexander Adams, The Rever^d M^r. James Robertson, M^r. Joseph Gray, M^r. Robert Martin, W^m Stoughton, Esq^r, Mr. Rob^t King, and M^r. Levin Gale. For Dorchester Cou^{ty}, The Rever^d M^r. Thomas Howell, Coll. Roger Woolford, Maj^r Henry Ennalls, Cap^t. John Rider, Cap^t. Henry Hooper, Cap^t. John Hodson, and M^r. Govert Loockerman. For Cecil Cou^{ty}, Coll. John Ward,

Maj^r John Dowdall, Coll. Benja^a Pearce, M^r. Steven Knight, M^r. Edw^d Jackson, M^r. Rich^d Thompson, and M^r. Thomas Johnson, Jun^r. For Prince Georges Cou^{ty}, The Hon^{ble} Charles Calvert, Esq^r, Gover^r, The Rever^d M^r. Jacob Henderson, M^r. Rob^t Tyler, Coll. Joseph Belt, M^r. Thomas Gant, M^r. George Noble, and Coll. John Bradford. For Queen Ann Cou^{ty}, The Rever^d M^r. Christopher Wilkinson, Philemon Lloyd, Esq^r, Rich^d Tilghman, Esq^r, M^r. James Earle, sen^r, M^r. William Turbutt, M^r. Augustine Thompson, and M^r. Edward Wright. The w^{ch} persons so nominated, appointed, authorized, & named, for y^e several & respective Counties as afores^d, or y^e Major part of them, in Case of Death, or absence of any, are hereby required wth all Conven^t speed to meet at such place wthin their Cou^{ty} as to them shall seem meet; To qualifie themselves for the office of Visitors of their Cou^{ty} Schools, w^{ch} they are to Do by Taking y^e several Oathes appointed by Act of Assembly, & signing The oathe of abjuration & the Test, according to y^e direction thereof. And also takeing an Oath for y^e discharge of the several Duties & Trust reposed in them in y^e words following (Viz^t). I, A B, Do swear y^t I will duly & faithfully Discharge y^e Duties & Trusts Committed to me, as a visitor of Prince Georges Cou^{ty} School: according to y^e best of my skill and Cunning. So help me God. The w^{ch} Oathes are to be administred by any of y^e four P^{ersons} last named, for y^e County, to y^e P^{erson} first named, or in his absence, to any of y^e three persons first named y^t shall be present. The w^{ch} P^{erson} being sworn as afores^d, shall y^e administer the Oaths aforementioned to all y^e rest. So successively y^e first person named y^t shall be present, shall always administer y^e s^d Oaths to any y^t have been absent, or y^t shall hereafter be selected & Chosen, pursuant to y^e direction of this Act, To supply y^e place of any y^t shall be dead or removed out of y^e County. And y^e afores^d P^{ersons}, or y^e Major part of them, being sworn as aforesaid, shall be Constituted & qualified as visitors of y^e school of their s^d Cou^{ty}, and as such are hereby Invested wth full power and Authority, as a body Politick, to plead, & be Impleaded, to sue & be sued, to defend & be defended, to answer & be answered, in all & every Cause, Complaint, & action, Real, P^{ersonal} or mixt, of w^{soever} kind or nature it shall be, in any of y^e Courts & Places of Judicature wthin this Province. *And* That they, or any of them, or any other P^{erson} or P^{ersons} w^{soever}, either before or after such School shall be erected, founded, & established, in any Cou^{ty} as afores^d, Have full power to give, & grant, assign, & bequeath, all or any manours, Lands, Tenem^{ts}, Rents, Services, Portions, Annuities, Pensions, Inheri-

tances, Franchises, & possessions w^hsoever, spiritual or Temporal, to y^e value of one Hundred pounds sterling p^a Annum. Besides all Burdens, Reprisalls, and Reparations to them y^e s^d Visitors, or the Major Part or survivours of them, Incorporate for such County School, for y^e use of such school, to them & their successors for ever. And Further, that y^e s^d p^{er}sons so Incorporated, the longest Livers, & successors of them, shall be the true, sole & undoubted Visitors of such schools, in Perpetual Succession, for ever, to be Continued in y^e way & manner hereafter specified, wth full & absolute Power, Liberty & authority in making and ordaining such Laws, orders, & rules for y^e good Governm^t of y^e s^d schools, as to them, y^e s^d Visitors, & their successours, shall, from time to time, according to y^e various occasions and Circumstances, seem to them most fitt & Requisite. All w^{ch} shall be observed by y^e Master, usher, Tutor & scholars of y^e s^d Schools, upon y^e Penalties therein Contained. PROVIDED always y^t the s^d Rules, laws, & orders, be noways Contrary to y^e Royal Prerogative, nor to y^e Laws & Statutes of England, and Acts of Assembly of this Province, or to y^e Canons and Constitutions of y^e Church of England by Law Established. And for y^e Perpetuating y^e Succession of y^e aforementioned number of seven Visitors to each School, as afores^d, BE IT ENACTED by y^e Authority, advice & Consent afores^d, that as often as any one or more of y^e visitors of any of y^e aforesaid Schools shall die or remove himself & family out of y^e Province, or into any other County to Reside, that then & so often, the visitors for y^e time being then surviving & Remaining wthin y^e County, or the major part of them, Be & are hereby authorized & required to Elect, nominate and Choose, one or more of the principal & better sort of y^e Inhabitants of y^e Cou^{ty} into y^e place & Room of the said Visitors of such school, so dead or removed, and so fill up y^e number of Visitors for each school, the which p^{er}sons so elected & chosen, from time to time, are always to be qualified in the same manner as is before Mentioned. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, that The Visitors for y^e time being, of each school, being Qualified as afores^d, be & are hereby authorized & Directed, wth all Conven^t speed, to purchase one Hundred acres or more of Land, for y^e use of such School, having a special regard as to its Conveniency, that it be as near as possible, in such place ~~in y^e Cou^{ty}~~ as is before Directed for y^e Erecting of Schools by this Act. ~~The w^{ch}~~ Land when so purchased, the Visitors are to assign such part of it as they shall see meet, not to exceed one moiety thereof, to be built upon and cleared (if not before built upon, & cleared) for

The Conveniency of making Corn & grain, and for Pasturage for y^e Incouragem^t, use & benefit of the Master of such school for y^e time being. The other Moiety whereof is to be preserved in Woodland ground and no other use made thereof by the Master wthout the Licence & direction of y^e s^d Visitors, than what may be absolutely necessary for firewood, & the repairing of y^e houses & fencing already built and made, or to be built & made on such other Moiety thereof. And that no master be p^{er}mitted, either by himself or by any other P^{er}son, on any Pretence whatsoever, to Plant any Tobacco on such land or plantation. And the Visitors of the several schools, as afores^d, are further Impowered and Directed in Case that there shall not be Sufficient building upon any such Land, at y^e time of making a Purchase thereof, for a Dwelling house & necessary Conveniencies for y^e master, and for keeping a school therein, & Ground cleared sufficient for y^e use afores^d, that then they, wth all convenient speed, agree wth such Workmen & Laborers, or other P^{er}son, in y^e best manner they can, that will undertake the necessary buildings & Improvem^t upon such Lands for y^e uses aforementioned. And the Visitors afores^d are Likewise hereby directed to take all proper Methods for encouraging good Schoolmasters, that shall be Members of y^e Church of England, & of Pious and Exemplary lives and Conversations, and Capable of teaching well y^e Grammar, good Writing & the Mathematicks, if such can be conveniently got. And that they allow to every such Master, for his incouragem^t, for y^e present (besides the benefit & use of his plantation) the sum of Twenty pounds p^{er} annum; and to take such other Measures, or make such other Agreem^t, from time to time for y^e future, as the Circumstances will admit of, as may give due encouragement to one or more masters, and be necessary & usefull for the Improveing & perpetuating such school. And Further, the Visitors of every School, after it shall be erected, are hereby required to meet thereat, at least four times a year, to Inspect into & Consider of and Direct the necessary affairs thereof. And for y^e Enabling The Visitors of y^e Schools as afores^d for y^e purchasing of lands and Erecting Schools, & incouraging of Masters in manner as afores^d, BE IT ENACTED, that y^e money already raised, for the use of County Schools, & that is now in y^e publick treasurers hands, being Divided into Twelve equal parts (answering to y^e number of County Schools now to be Erected), The Treasurers in whose hands such money lies, are hereby required to make due payment of one of those Twelve parts, or Dividend, of money in their hands, To the Visitors of the School for each

Cou^r, or y^e major part of them, or their orders, whensoever they shall have occasion to draw on such Treasurers for y^e same. And the like payments shall from time to time be made to y^e Visitors as afores^d, by the Treasurers, of y^e like Dividends, that shall hereafter arise due to such Schools, and come to their hands. And The Visitors of the Schools as afores^d are hereby Impowered to dispose of all such money as they shall receive from time to time, in such manner as may be most for the Incouragem^t & Advancem^t of Schools. AND BE IT ENACTED likewise, That y^e Visitors of each School, to be Constituted, Qualified, & incorporated, in manner afores^d, or y^e Major part of them & their Successors, be, & are hereby enabled, to take, hold, & enjoy & be Apt & Capable in Law, for taking, holding, & enjoying, all Mannours, Lands, Tenem^{ts}, Inheritances, franchises, & possessions whatsoever, Spiritual or Temporal, to y^e value of Fifteen Hundred pounds Sterl., and all other Goods, Chattels, money, & personal Estate w^hsoever, of the gift of any person w^hsoever, that already hath or Hereafter shall be willing to bestow them, for y^e use of the s^d Schools, or any other gifts, Grants, assignments, Legacies, or appointm^{ts} of y^e same, or any of them, or any other goods whatsoever, to be applied by y^e Visitors for the uses, & in manner aforementioned. And The Visitors are likewise hereby Authorized to receive all fines & forfeitures as have already arisen Due, or y^e shall hereafter arise due, to their several Cou^r Schools, in whose hands soever the same are lodged or hereafter shall be Lodged. And upon refusal or Delay of Paym^t thereof, that then they may at their Discretion Exercise the Powers & Authorities given them as a body Politick, by this Act, for y^e Recovery of the same, the which fines & forfeitures are likewise to be apply'd to y^e uses & in manner afores^d. PROVIDED always y^t y^e Visitors To be appointed for every School as afores^d, and their Successors, from time to time, are hereby Impowered to appoint a Register, & allow him a reasonable Sallary, who is hereby obliged to keep a fair acc^t of all their Proceedings, & of their applications by them to be made, of all money's, Tobacco's, or other Comodities, or matters, or things whatsoever, that shall come to their Hands by vertue of the Authorities given them by This Act, w^{ch} shall at all times hereafter be subject to the Examination & Correction of y^e General Assembly of this Province. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, that every P^{er}son by this Act appointed as a Visitor of the Cou^r Schools, or that shall hereafter be nominated and appointed as such, Pursuant to y^e directions hereof, that shall wilfully refuse or Delay to take upon him the

a^d office, shall forfeit & pay for every such refusal or Delay, the sum of five hundred pounds of Tobacco, for the use of y^e School of y^e Cou^{ty} where such offence shall be Comitted, to be recovered in his L^{dppe} Name or at the Visitors suit, before the Justices of that Cou^{ty} Court by Bill, Plaint, or Information, wherein no Essoyn, Protection or wager of Law shall be allowed.

Octob^r y^e 18th, 1723.

Read & assented to by y^e Lower House
of Assembly & signed ꝑ ord^r.

M. JENIFER, Clk.
Lo. Ho.

8^{ber} y^e 26, 1723.

On y^e Behalfe of y^e R^t Hono^{ble} y^e L^d
Proprietary of this Province,

I will this be a Law.

CHA. CALVERT.

8^{ber} y^e 18th, 1723.

Read & assented to by the
upper House of Assembly,
and signed ꝑ ord^r.

SAM^{LL}. SKIPPON,

Clk. upper House.

Vera: Copia from y^e
original. ꝑ

VACHET DENTON.

An Act to Confirm Lands Devised for y^e use of y^e Church.

WHEREAS, for a Considerable Time, from y^e first settlement of this Province, There were few or noe Ministers to Dispencc The Word & Sacram^{ts}; That y^e Country was in an unsettled Condition, as to Religion, and few or noe Parishes Erected during that time; and Whereas several Pious & well disposed persons, for promoting y^e Protestant Religion, and for Encouragem^t of Ministers, have given, or devised, several parcels of Land for y^e use, but That notwthstanding, y^e good Intent of several of y^e Devisors have been frustrated, thro y^e negligence or unskillfulness of The writers of wills, w^{ch} is a great Grievance to y^e Church, & has & may be a discouragem^t to persons Charitably Inclined to give any lands for Glebes, where they are wanted, as they are in many parishes, w^{ch} makes y^e Incumbent unsettled, and Reduces him to straits, as to his Residence. For Remedy whereof for y^e Future,

BE IT ENACTED, &c^e, That any person or persons being of sound & disposing mind & memory, that have heretofore devised, or shall hereafter Devise, any lands or Tenem^{ts} to y^e use of any Church or Chappel wthin this Province, or for support or maintenance of the Clergy or Ministry of y^e Church of England as by law Established, or to the use of y^e Church, or support of y^e Protestant Religion in general, wthout particularly mentioning to w^t church, Chappel, or Person, shall be good & Effectual in Law notwithstanding such omission, or any Ambiguity or uncertainty in y^e wording any will, if y^e intent of y^e Testator can be reasonably Collected from y^e words of y^e will or otherwise proved.

And for putting an end to disputes about y^e Rights to such Lands, be it Enacted, &c^e, y^t where y^e Intent of y^e Testator is at Large, and it does not appear to w^t Church, Chappel or person he devised such land, in such Case y^e land so divided shall goe to y^e Parish or Incumbent where such land lies, and that noe Want or Insufficiency of words, where y^e Intent appears, shall defeat such parish or Incumbent of such Land.

PROVIDED nevertheless, y^t this Law shall in nowise affect any lands y^t have heretofore been disputed or escheated, or ab^t w^{ch} there is at this time any contest or law suit depending.

And provided likewise y^t such Will or Wills have or shall be signed by y^e Testator so devising y^e same, or by some other person in his presence, & by his Express directions, in the presence of three or more Credible Evidences.

THE CHARTER OF MARYLAND.

CHARLES, By The Grace of God King of England, Scotland, Ffrance, and Ireland, Defender of y^e Ffaith, &c^e, To All To whom These presents shall come, Greeting.

WHEREAS, our right Trusty & well beloved subject, Cecilius Calvert, Baron of Baltimore, in our Kingdom of Ireland, son & heir of S^t George Calvert, Kn^t, late Baron of Baltimore, in y^e same Kingdom of Ireland, Pursuing his

faithful Intention, being excited wth a Laudable & pious zeal for y^e propagation of the Christian faith, and y^e Enlargem^t of our Empire and Dominion; Hath humbly besought leave of us, by his Industry, & charge, to Transport an ample Colony of y^e English nation unto a certain Country hereafter described, in y^e parts of America, not yet Cultivated and planted, tho' in some parts thereof Inhabited, by a certain Barbarous people, Having no knowledge of Almighty God. And hath humbly besought our Royall Maj^{ty} to give, grant, & confirm, all the s^d Country, wth y^e certain priviledges & Jurisdictions requisite for y^e good government & estate of y^e Country afores^d, to him & his heires for ever. KNOW YEE, Therefore, y^e wee, favouring y^e pious & noble purpose of y^e s^d Baron of Baltemore, of our Special Grace, certain knowledge and meer Motion, Have given, granted, & confirmed, & by this our present Charter, for us our Heires & successors, Do give, grant, & confirm unto the s^d Cecilius, now Baron of Baltemore, his heires & assigns, All y^e Part of a Peninsula lying in the parts of America, between the Ocean on y^e East, and y^e bay of Chesepeak on y^e West, & divided from the other parts thereof by a right line drawn from y^e Promontory or Cape of land called Watkins's Point, scituate in y^e afores^d Bay, near y^e River of Wigh, & in y^e afores^d bay, on y^e west unto y^e Main Ocean on y^e East, and between y^e bound on y^e south, unto y^e part of Delaware bay on y^e North w^{ch} lyeth under y^e fortieth degree of Northerly Latitude of y^e Equinoctial where new England ends, and that tract of land between y^e bounds afores^d, (that is to say) passing from y^e afores^d bay called Delaware bay, in a right line by y^e degree afores^d, unto the true Meridian of the first fountain of the River Potomack; from thence, tending towards the south unto the further bank of y^e afores^d River, and following the west & south side thereof unto a certain place Called Cinquack, scituate near the mouth of y^e s^d River, where it falls into y^e Bay of Chesepeak, and from thence by a strait lyne unto y^e a^l Promontory, & place Called Watkins's point, so that all y^e tract of Land divided by y^e line afores^d, drawn between the main Ocean & watkins's point unto y^e Promontory Called Cape Charles, & all its appurtenances, do remain Intirely Excepted to us, our heires and successors for ever.

Wee do also grant & confirm unto the L^d Baltemore, his heires and assigns, all Islands & Inlets wthin y^e Limits afores^d, & all & singular y^e Islands & Inlets w^{ch} are or shall be in the ocean wthin ten leagues from y^e Eastern shore of y^e afores^d Country towards y^e East, wth all & singular

Ports, Harbours, bays, rivers, and Inlets, belonging unto y^e s^d Country or Island afores^d, and all y^e soile, Lands, feilds, woods, mountaines, ffenns, lakes, rivers, bays, & Inlets, scituate or being wthin y^e bounds & limits aforesaid, wth y^e fishing of all sorts of fish, whales, sturgeon, & all other Royal ffishes in y^e sea, bays, Inlets, & Rivers wthin y^e premisses, and y^e fish therein taken; and moreover, all veines, mines, & quarry's, as well discovered as not discovered, of gold, silver, gems, and pretious stones, & all other w^hsoever be it of stones, mettall, or any other thing or matter w^hsoever found, or to be found, wthin y^e Country, Island, & limits afores^d; and furthermore, the Patronages & advowsons of all Churches (wth as Christian Religion shall encrease) wthin y^e Country, Island, Inlets, & limitts afores^d, shall happen hereafter to be erected. Together wth Lycence & power to build & found Churches, Chap-pells, and oratory's, in Conven^t and fit places, wthin y^e premisses; & cause them to be dedicated, and consecrated, according to the Ecclesiastical Laws of our Kingdom of England. Together wth all and singular y^e like, & as ample rights, Jurisdiccions, and ffranchises of w^hsoever kind temporal, as well by sea as by land, wthin y^e Country, Isles, Inlets, or limitts afores^d. To Have, exercise, use, & enjoy y^e same, as amply as any Bishop of Durham, wthin y^e Bishoprick or Cou^{ty} of Durham hath heretofore at any time had, held, used, or enjoyed, or of Right ought or might have, had, held, used, or enjoy'd.

And him, y^e s^d Now L^d Baltemore, his heires & assigns, wee do by these presents, for us, our heires & successors, make, Create, & Constitute, y^e true and absolutely L^d & Proprietor of the Country afores^d, & of all other y^e premisses (except before excepted) saving always y^e faith, & allegiance & sovereign Dominion due to us, our heires and successors. To have, hold, possess, and enjoy the s^d Country, Isles, Inlets, and other y^e premisses, unto the s^d Now L^d Baltemore, his heires and assigns, to y^e sole & proper use and behoof of him, y^e s^d now L^d Baltemore, his heires & assigns for ever, To b^e Holden of us, our heires & successors, Kings of England, at our Castle of Windsor, in our Cou^{ty} of Barkshire, In ffee & Common soccage, by fealty only, for all services not in Capite, or by Knights service. Yielding & paying, therefore, to us, our heires and successors, Two Indian arrows of those parts, to be delivered at our s^d Castle of windsor every year, on the Tuesday in Easter weeke, and also the fifth part of all gold and silver ore wthin y^e limits af^d, w^{ch} shall from time to time happen to be found.

Now That y^e s^d Country Thus by us granted & described, may be eminent

above all other parts of y^e s^d Teritory, and dignified wth Larger Titles, Know YEE That wee, of our further grace, certain Knowledge, and meer motion, have thought fit to erect y^e same Country & Islands into a Province; as out of y^e fulness of our Royall Power & prerogative, wee do, for us, our heires & successors, erect and Incorporate them into a province, and do call it MARYLAND, and so from Henceforth will have it Called.

And for as much as wee have hereby made and ordained y^e afores^d now L^d Baltimore y^e true L^d & Proprietor of y^e s^d Province, Know YEE Therefore, moreover y^e wee, reposing special Trust & Confidence in y^e fidelity, wisdom, Justice, & prudent circumspection of the s^d now L^d Baltimore, for us, our heires and successors, Do grant free, full, & absolute power & authority, by vertue of these presents, to him & his heires, for y^e good and happy Governm^t of y^e s^d Province, to ordain, make, & enact, under his or their seales, to publish any laws w^{so}ever, appertaining either to the publick state of y^e s^d province, or unto y^e private Utility of particular parties, according to y^e best discretion, wth y^e advice, assent, and approbation of y^e freemen of y^e s^d Province, or the greater part of them; or of y^e Deputies and Delegates whom, for y^e Enacting of y^e said Laws w^a and as often as need shall require, wee will y^e s^d now Lord Baltimore and his heires shall assemble in such sort & form as to him or them shall seem best, and y^e same Laws duly to Execute upon all people wthin y^e same Province and limits thereof, for the time being, or y^e shall be constituted under y^e Governm^t and power of him or them, either sailing towards Maryland or returning from thence towards England, or any other of our Foreign Dominions, by Implication of penalties, Imprisonm^t, or any other punishm^t. YEA, if it shall be needfull and that the Quality of y^e offence require it, by taking away member or life, either by him y^e s^d now L^d Baltimore & his heires, or by his & their Deputys, Lieut^s, Judges, Justices, magistrates, officers, & ministers to be ordained & appointed, according to the tenor & true intention of these presents; and likewise to appoint and establish any Judges, Justices, & Magistrates & officers whatsoever, and wth w^t power soever, and in such form as to y^e s^d now L^d Baltimore or his heires shall seem most Conven^t. Also to remitt, release, pardon & abolish, whither before Judgm^t or after, all crimes or offences w^{so}ever ag^t y^e s^d Laws, &c^a. And to do all & every other thing or things wthunto y^e compleat Establishm^t of Justice, unto Courts, Pretory's, Tribunals, forms of Judicatories, & manner of proceedings doe belong, altho' in These presents express mention be not

made thereof; & by Judges and by them Delegates, to award process, hold pleas, & determine, in all y^e s^d Courts & tribunalls, all actions, suites, & causes whatsoever, as well Criminal as Civill, personal, real, mixt, & pretorial; wth laws so as a^d to be published; our pleasure is & so wee enjoyne, require, and command, shall be most absolute & available in Law, and y^e all y^e Liege people & subjects of us, our heires and success^{rs}, do observe & keep y^e same inviolably in these parts, so far as they concern them, under the paines therein exprest, or to be exprest. Provided nevertheless y^e s^d laws be consonant to reason, & be not repugnant, or Contrary, but as near as may be to y^e laws, statutes, customs, & rights of this our Kingdom of England.

And forasmuch as in the Govern^t of so great a Province, sudden accidents do often happen, whereunto it will be necessary to apply a remedy, before y^e freeholders of the s^d province, y^e Deputy's & Delegates can be assembled, to y^e making of Laws, neither will it be conven^t y^e Instantly on such emerg^t occasion, so great a multitude should be called Together: therefore, for y^e better govern^mt of y^e said Province, wee will & ordain, & by these presents for us, our heires & successors, Do grant unto y^e s^d now L^d Baltemore and his heires, y^e he, y^e s^d now L^d Baltemore & his heires, by themselves, or by y^e Magistrates & officers, in y^e behalf duly to be ordained, as afores^d, may make & Constitute fitt & wholesome ordinances, from time to time wthin y^e said Province to be kept & observed, as well for y^e preservation of y^e peace, as for y^e better governing of y^e people there Inhabiting; and publickly to notifie y^e same to all persons whom y^e same doth or may concern, w^{ch} ordinances our pleasure is shall be observed inviolably, in the said Province under therein Exprest, so as y^e s^d ordinances be Consonant to reason, & be not repugn^t, nor contrary, but so far as conveniently may be, agreeable to & wth y^e laws & statutes of our kingdom of England, and so as y^e s^d ordinances be not extended in any sort to bind, charge or take away the right or Interest of any person or persons, of or in their life, member, freehold, goods or Chattells.

Furthermore, that this now Colony may y^e more happily encrease, by the multitude of people resorting thither, and likewise be y^e more strongly defended from y^e Incursions of savages, or other enemies, Pirates or Robbers, Therefore wee, for our heires and successors, doe give & grant by these Presents power, lycence, & liberty, to all y^e Liege people and subjects, both present & future, of us our heires & successors (excepting those who shall especially be forbidden) to transport themselves & families into the s^d Prov-

ince wth conven^t shipping and fitting provisions, and there to settle themselves, dwell & Inhabit, and to build & fortifie, forts, Castles, & other places of strength, for y^e publick, & for their own private defence, at the appointm^t of y^e s^d now L^d Baltemore and his heires. The statute of fugitives or any other w^{so}ever to the contrary of y^e premisses, in any wise notwthstanding. And wee will also, & for our more especial grace, for us, our heires & successors, wee doe straitly enjoyn, constitute, & ordain, that y^e s^d Province shall be of our allegiance, and y^e all and singular y^e subjects & liege people, of us, our heires and successors, transported or to be transported unto y^e s^d province, and y^e children of them, and of such as shall descend from them, already born or to be born, be & shall be Denizens of and liege of us, our heires & successors of our Kingdom of England & Ireland, and be in all things held, treated, reputed & esteemed, as liege people of us, our heires & successors, born wthin our Kingdom of England, & likewise any lands, tenem^{ts}, reversions, revenues, services, and other Heraditam^{ts} w^{so}ever, wthin our Kingdom of England, and other our Dominions, may take, have, hold, buy and possess; and they may have, hold, use, occupy & enjoy, sell, alien, & bequeath; as likewise all liberty's, franchises, & priviledges, of this our Kingdom of England. Also our will & pleasure is, and by this our Charter, Do give unto y^e said now L^d Baltemore, his heires & assigns, full power, liberty & authority, in case of rebellion, Tumult, or sedition, if any should happen, (w^{ch} God forbid), either upon y^e Land wthin y^e Province a^d, or upon y^e main sea in making a voyage thither; or returning from thence themselves, or their Captaines, Deputies, or other officers to be authorized under y^e seales, for y^e purpose, to whom wee also, for us our heires & successors, do give & grant by these presents, full power & authority to exercise Martial Law ag^t all Incursions, & seditious p^{er}sons; of those persons such as shall refuse to submit themselves to his or their Government, or shall refuse to serve in y^e wars, or shall flee to the Enemy, or forsake their ensignes, or be Loyerers, or stragglers, or otherwise however offending ag^t y^e Law, Custom, and discipline Military, freely & in as ample manner and for us, as any Cap^t Gen^l of any army by vertue of his office might or hath accustomed to use y^e same.

Furthermore, that y^e way to Honours & dignitys may not seem to be altogether precluded, & shut up to men well born, and such as shall prepare themselves to this present plantation, and shall desire to deserve well of us

& our Kingdom, both in peace & warr, in so far distant & remote a Country, Therefore wee, for us, our heires and successors, Doe give free & absolute power unto s^d now L^d Baltemore, his heires & assigns, to confer favour, reward, and Honour, on such Inhabitants wthin y^e Province afores^d as shall deserve y^e same, and to Invest them wth what Titles & dignities w^{soever}, as he shall think fit, so as they be not such as are rownsed in England, as likewise Elect & Incorporate Towns into Burroughs, & Burroughs into Cittys, wth Conven^t priviledges and Immunities, according to y^e merrit of y^e Inhabitants and fitness of y^e places; and to do all & every other thing and things, touching y^e premisses, w^{ch} to him or them shall seem meet & requisite; albeit they be such, as of our own nature, might otherwise require a more special Commandm^t & warr^t, than in these presents is exprest, wee will also, & by these presents for us, our heires & successors, wee do give & grant, lycence by This our Charter unto the s^d now L^d Baltemore, his heires & assigns, and to all y^e Inhabitants of y^e Country af^d, both present & to come, to Import, or unload by themselves, serv^{ts}, factors, or assi^t, all merchandize, & goods w^{soever} that shall arise, of the fruits and commodities of y^e s^d Province; either by land or sea, into any of y^e Ports of us, our heires and successors, in our Kingdom of England, or Ireland, or otherwise to dispose of y^e s^d goods in y^e s^d Ports, and if need be, wthin one year next after the unloading of y^e same, to load the s^d Merchandizes and goods again, into y^e same or other ships, and to Export y^e same again into any other Country's, either of our Dominions or foreign, being in amity wth us, our heires and successors, provided always y^t they pay such Customes, Impositions, subsidies, & duty's of the same, to us, our heires & successors, as y^e rest of our subjects of our Kingdom of England, for y^e time being, shall be bound to pay, beyond w^{ch} wee will not that the Inhabitants of y^e af^d Province of Maryland shall be charged. And Furthermore, of our ample & free grace, certain knowledge, & meer motion wee do for us our heires & successors, grant unto the s^d now Lord Baltemore, his heires and assigns, full & absolute power and authority, to make, erect, & Constitute, wthin y^e Province of Maryland, & y^e Isles & Inlets afores^d, such & so many sea port, Harbours, Creeks, & other places, for y^e discharge and unloading of goods, & merchandizes, out of ships, boats, & other vessells, & loading them; & in such & in many places, and wth such rights, Jurisdictions & priviledges unto y^e s^d parts belonging, as to him or them shall seem most expedient; and y^t all & singular y^e ships,

boats, or other vessels, w^{ch} shall come for merchandize & trade into y^e s^d Province or out of y^e same, & shall depart, shall be loaded, or unloaden, only at such ports as shall be so erected & constituted by y^e s^d now L^d Baltimore, his heires or assigns, any use, Custom, or thing, to y^e contrary notwthstanding. Saving always to us, our heires & successors, and to all our subjects of our Kingdom of England and Ireland, of us our heires & successors, free liberty of fishing for sea fish, as well in y^e sea, bays, rivers, Inlets, & navigable rivers, as in y^e Harbours, bays, & Creeks of y^e Province afores^d, and y^e priviledge of salting and drying their fish on y^e shore of y^e s^d Province; and for the same Cause, to Cut & take underwood, or Twiggs there growing, and to build Cottages, & sheds, necessary in this behalf, as they heretofore have used; wth liberties & priviledges nevertheless the subjects of us, our heires & successors, shall enjoy wthout any notable damages or Injury, to be done unto y^e s^d now L^d Baltimore, his heires & assigns, or to the dwellers or Inhabitants of y^e s^d Province, in y^e Ports, creek's, and shores afores^d, and especially in y^e woods & Copes growing in y^e s^d Province. And if any shall deny such damage or Injury, he shall Incurr y^e Heavy displeasure of us, our heires and successors, and the punishm^t of the Laws, & shall, moreover, make satisfaction. Wee do furthermore will, appoint, and ordain, and by these presents, for us, our heires & successors, wee do grant unto the s^d now L^d Baltimore, his heires & assigns, may from time to time for ever, have & enjoy y^e Customes & subsidies, in the Ports, Harbours, & other Creeks and places afores^d, wthin y^e Province afores^d, payable & due, for merchandizes & wares, there to be loaded or unloaded, the s^d Customs & subsidies to be reasonably assessed, upon any occasion by themselves, & y^e people there afores^d; to whom wee give power, by these presents, for us, our heires and successors, on Just Cause & in due proportiones, To assess & Impost y^e same.

And further, of our special grace, & of our certain knowledge and meer motion, wee have given, granted, and by these presents, for us, our heires & successors, confirmed unto y^e s^d now L^d Baltimore, his heires and assigns, full and absolute power & authority, that he, y^e s^d now Lord Baltimore, his heires and assigns, from time to time, at his and their will & pleasure, may assign, alien, demise, and enfeoffe, of y^e premisses, so many, & such parts & parcells, to him or them that shall be willing to purchase y^e same, as they shall think fit. To have & to hold to them the P^{erson} or P^{ersons} willing to take or purchase the same, their heires & assigns, in Fee simple, Fee Taile, or for term of

life or lives or years, to be held of y^e now L^d Baltimore, his heires & assigns, by such services, Customs & rents, as shall seem fit to y^e s^d now L^d Baltimore, his heires & assigns, and not Immediately of us, our heires or successors. And to y^e same p^{er}son or p^{er}sons, and to all & every of them, wee doe give & grant, by these presents, for us, our heires & successors, Lycence, authority, & power, that such person or persons may take y^e premisses or any parcel thereof, of y^e s^d now L^d Baltimore, his heires or assigns, and the same hold to them, their heires or assigns, in w^h estate of Inheritance soever, in Fee simple or Fee taile or otherwise, as to them or y^e now L^d Baltimore, his heires or assigns shall seem expedient of y^e s^d now L^d Baltimore, his heires & assigns. The statute made in y^e Parliam^t of Edward son of King Henry, late King of England, our Predecessor, commonly called The Statute *Quia implores Terrarum*, lately published, in our Kingdom of England, any other statute, act, ordinance, use, law or Custom, or any other thing, Cause, or matter, thereupon heretofore had, done, made, published, or provided to y^e contrary in any wise notwithstanding. And by these presents, wee give & grant lycence to y^e s^d now L^d Baltimore, his heires & assigns, to erect any parcels of Land w^hin y^e Province aforesaid, into Mannours, & in every of y^e s^d Mannors to have and to Hold a Court Baron, w^h all things w^hsoever which to a Court Baron doe belong. And to Have & to Hold view of ffrank pledge, for y^e Conservation of y^e peace, and the better governm^t of those parts, by themselves or their stewards, or by the L^d for y^e time being of other Mannours, To be disputed when they shall be erected, and in the same to use all things belonging to y^e view of ffrank pledge. And Further, our pleasure is, & by these presents, for us, our heires and assigns, That wee, our heires & successors, wee do Covenant & grant To & w^h y^e s^d now L^d Baltimore, his heires & assigns, That wee, our heires & successors, shall at no time hereafter, set, or make, or Cause to be set, or made, any Imposition, Custom, or other tax, rate, or Contribution whatsoever, in or upon y^e dwellers, or Inhabitants of y^e a^d Province; for their Lands, Tenem^{ts}, goods, or Chattels w^hin y^e s^d Province, or in or upon any goods or merchandize w^hin y^e s^d Province, or to be loaden or unloaden w^hin any ports or harbours of y^e s^d Province. And our pleasure is, and for us, our heires & successors, wee charge & command; that this our Deed shall, from henceforward, from time to time be received & allowed in all our Courts, & before all our Judges, of us, our heires & success^{rs}, for a sufficient & lawful discharge, paym^t, & acquittance, Commanding all and singular, our officers

and minister's, of us, our heires & successors, & enjoying them, upon paines of incurring our high displeasure, that they doe not presume, at any time, to attempt any thing to y^e Contrary of y^e premisses, or that they doe not, in any sort, wthstand y^e same; but they be at all times aiding & assisting unto y^e s^d now L^d Baltimore & his heires, and to y^e Inhabitants & merch^{ts} of Maryland afores^d, their serv^{ts}, Ministers, factors & assigns, in the full use & fruition of y^e benefit of this our Charter. And further, our pleasure is, and by these presents for us, our heires and success^{rs}, wee do grant unto the s^d now L^d Baltimore, his heires & assigns, and to y^e Tenants & Inhabitants of y^e said province of Maryland, both present & to come, and to every of them, that y^e s^d Province, tenants, & Inhabitants, of y^e s^d Colony or Country; shall not from hence forth be held, or reputed, as a member or part of Virginia, or of any other Colony w^{so}ever, now transported, or hereafter to be Transported, nor shall be depending on, or subject to, their Governm^t in anything from whom wee do separate that & them. And our pleasure is, by these presents, that they be separated, and y^e they be subject Immediately to our Crown of England, as depending thereof for ever. And if by Chance hereafter it should happen y^e any doubts or questions shall arise, concerning y^e true sence & understanding of any word, cause, or sentence, contained in this our present Charter, wee will, ordain & Command, that at all times, & in all things, such Interpretation be made thereof, and allowed, in any of our Courts w^{so}ever, as shall be Judged most advantagious and favorable unto y^e s^d now L^d Baltimore, his heires & assigns. Provided always y^e no Interpretation be admitted thereof; but wth Gods Holy & Christian Religion, or y^e allegiance due unto us, our heires & successors, may in any thing suffer prejudice or diminution, altho' express mention be not made in these presents, of y^e true yearly value, or Certainty of the premisses, or any part thereof, or of other gifts & grants made by us, our heires and successors, unto the s^d now L^d Baltimore, or any statute, act, ordinance, provision, proclamation, or restraint, heretofore had, made, published, ordained, or provided; or any other thing, Cause, or matter w^{so}ever, to the Contrary thereof, in any wise notwthstanding.

In Witness whereof, wee have caused These our Letters to be made Pattents. Witness our self at Westminster, y^e 20th day of June, in the Eighth year of our Reign. Anno 1632.

Govern^r CALVERT'S Letter to the Commissary.

ANAPOLIS, y^e 15th Ap^l, 1724.

REV^d S^r,

I have lately been favoured wth a Letter from the Right Rev^d The L^d Bishop of London, wherein he has recommended to me to protect & favour y^e Church & Clergy. This has only Inliven'd my disposition for so good a worke. My Inclination being always bent to render them any service in my power, and over & above, I think it one great duty of y^e trust committed to me, as far as in me lies, to promote y^e true Interests of Religion in this Province. Having often declared these my sentim^{ts}, I need say no more, than y^t I pay all due respect to y^e Recommendation of so worthy a Prelate, and desire you to acquaint the Clergy on y^e shore to meet me at Annapolis y^e 27th of May next, to propose to me any particulars wherein I can be serviceable; and I believe that may be a proper time to Consider y^e matters his Lord^{pp} desires a light into. I think such a Convention necessary y^t the Clergys answer to his Lord^{pp} may be set in y^e Clearest light. You are to expect only this from me, for opening y^e Convention, & be assured that I am

Rev^d S^r,

wth great Esteem,

y^e most Humble Serv^t,

CHA. CALVERT.

To y^e Rev^d M^r. Jacob Henderson,
in Prince Geo. Cou^{ty}.

The Clergy being met y^e 27th of May, according to y^e foregoing letter, addressed his Excell^{cy} as follows:

MAY IT PLEASE Y^e EXCELL^{cy},

Wee, the Clergy of y^e Western Shore Conven'd by y^e ord., beg leave to approach you wth our unfeign'd thanks for y^e hearty Zeal you have always had, and continue to show for the Interest of the Church & Clergy in particular, for y^e pious declaration in y^e letter to our late Commissary. That it is one great

duty of y^e Trust committed to you, as far as in you lies, to promote y^e true Interest of Religion in this Province.

Wee gratefully acknowledge y^e you have not only declared These Sentim^{ts}, but upon all occasions given full proof of them, and wee cannot sufficiently express how Ingaging y^e respect is you pay to the recommendation of our present Right Rev^d Diocesan.

This present opportunity yo^r Excell^{cy} has given us of meeting Together, to propose any particular for y^e good of y^e Church, and to set our answers to his Lord^{sh} Queries in y^e Clearest light is most favorable.

These things call not only for our thanks, but for a suitable return of Duty & affection, and wee take this opportunity to declare that wee are not only full of Duty & Loyalty to his most Gracious Maj^{ty} King George, & obedience to y^e Excell^{cy}, but shall at all times make use of the Influence wee have over our people to Infuse into them, and Confirm them, in the same sentim^{ts}.

Wee are,

May it please y^e Excell^{cy}

y^e Most Dutifull & obed^t serv^{ts},

JAMES WILLIAMSON, Rector of All Saints Parish in Calvert Cou^{ty}.

JAMES COX, Rector of Westminster Parish.

PETER TUSTIAN, Rect^r of St. James Parish.

JACOB HENDERSON, Rector of St. Barnabas.

JO^s FRASAR, Rector of King George parish in Prince Geo. Cou^{ty}.

JONA^s CAY, Rector of Christ Church.

GILES RAINSFORD, Rector of St. Paul's.

W^m MACONCHIE, Rector of Port Tobacco & Durham in Charles Cou^{ty}.

JO^s DONALDSON, Rector of King and Queen parish in St. Mary's and Charles Cou^{ty}.

W^m TIBBS, Rector of St. Paul's Parish in Baltimore Cou^{ty}.

QUERIES to be Answered by every MINISTER.

ST. PAUL'S PARISH IN BALTEMORE COUNTY, MARYLAND.

How long is it since you went over to the Plantations as a Missionary?

It is four & twenty years since I went over to the Plantations as a missionary.

Have you had any other Church, before you came to that which you now possess; and if you had, what Church was it, and how long have you been removed?

I never had any other church before that which I now possess.

Have you been duly Licensed by the Bishop of London to officiate as a Missionary, in the Government where you now are?

I have been duly licensed by the Bishop of London to officiate as a missionary in the Governm^t I now am in.

How long have you been Inducted into your Living?

It is four and twenty years since I have been Inducted into my living.

Are you ordinarily resident in the Parish to which you have been Inducted?

I am ordinarily resident in the parish to which I have been inducted, for I have not been one month absent from my Parish this 24 years.

Of what extent is your Parish, and how many Families are there in it?

The extent of my parish is—40 miles in breadth & 40 in length, & the number of families in my Parish are 363.

Are there any Infidels, bond or free, within your Parish; and what means are used for their conversion?

There is not one native Indian in my Parish, but there are negroes and mollattoes many, but all bond. Many of them I have baptized & instructed in the principles of the Christian Religion, but most have refused instruction.

How oft is Divine Service performed in your Church? And what proportion of the Parishioners attend it?

Divine Service is performed in my church every Sunday in the year, & upon some Holidays, and for the most part a full congregation of my parishioners attend it.

How oft is the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper administered? And what is the usual number of Communicants?

Three times in the year at least the sacram' of the Lords supper is administered, & seldom above 25 at a time.

At what times do you Catechise the Youth of your Parish?

Every Sunday during the 6 weeks in Lent, & at other times when their parents & masters are pleased to send them.

Are all things duly disposed and provided in the Church, for the decent and orderly performance of Divine Service?

I have a good large Bible & common prayer Book, but neither surplice, pulpit cloth, Cushion, nor Plate for the communion service but pewter.

Of what value is your Living in sterling money, and how does it arise?

The value of my living is not in sterling money. It arises in Tobacco. This present year it is 47360 pounds of Tobacco (never so much before). And when the Sheriffs & Clerks Salaries are deducted out of it, besides what the law has taken from me against my consent and my Parishioners (if your Lordship allows of it), the remainder turned into sterling money will be near £60 as Tobacco goes now.

Have you a House and Glebe? Is your Glebe in Lease, or Let by the Year? Or is it occupied by yourself?

I have both House and Glebe, my Glebe is neither in Lease, nor let by the year. It is occupied by myself.

Is due care taken to preserve your House in good repair? And at whose expense is it done?

There is not due care taken to preserve my House in Good repair. It is done at the Expence of the parish.

Have you more Cures than one? If you have, what are they? And in what manner served?

I have but one cure, and that duly served, according to the direction of the Rubrick.

Have you in your Parish any public School for the instruction of Youth? If you have, is it endowed? And who is the Master?

I have no public school in my parish for the Instruction of youth.

Have you a Parochial Library? If you have, are the Books preserved, and kept in good condition? Have you any particular rules and orders for the preserving of them? Are those rules and orders duly observed?

I have a small parochial Library. The Books are preserved & kept in good condition. I have no particular Rules and orders for the preserving of them.

W^m TIBBS, Rector.

29th May, 1724.

KING & QUEEN PARISH, SAINT MARY AND CHARLES COUNTY.

How long is it since you went over to the Plantations as a Missionary?

About 12 years.

Have you had any other Church, before you came to that which you now possess; and if you had, what Church was it, and how long have you been removed?

At my first arrival I was inducted into Somerset parish, in Somerset county, from thence removed to Westminster Parish, from thence 9 years ago removed to King & Queen parish.

Have you been duly Licensed by the Bishop of London to officiate as a Missionary, in the Government where you now are?

I was duly Licensed.

How long have you been Inducted into your Living?

Nine years.

Are you ordinarily resident in the Parish to which you have been Inducted? Ordinarily resident.

Of what extent is your Parish, and how many Families are there in it?

About 36 miles long and seven broad, and contains about 200 families.

Are there any Infidels, bond or free, within your Parish; and what means are used for their conversion?

Negroes & Mulattoes. Some of them that understand English come duly to church, where the means of Instruction are to be had.

How oft is Divine Service performed in your Church? And what proportion of the Parishioners attend it?

Every Sunday and Holyday, most part of the Parishioners attending.

How oft is the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper administered? And what is the usual number of Communicants?

12 times a week yearly, the number of communicants sometimes more, sometimes less, but generally between 60 & 80.

At what times do you Catechise the Youth of your Parish?

On all Sundays and holidays.

Are all things duly disposed and provided in the Church, for the decent and orderly performance of Divine Service?

Yes.

Of what value is your Living in sterling money, and how does it arise?

I can't ascertain the value of my living, it being paid in Tobacco, which is an uncertain commodity, & the number of taxables; sometimes more, sometimes less.

Have you a House and Glebe? Is your Glebe in Lease, or Let by the Year? Or is it occupied by yourself?

I have a Glebe, which I let by the year.

Is due care taken to preserve your House in good repair? And at whose expense is it done?

It has been repaired at the parish charges.

Have you more Cures than one? If you have, what are they? And in what manner served?

I have one parish, but 2 churches, in which I preach alternately.

Have you in your Parish any public School for the instruction of Youth? If you have, is it endowed? And who is the Master?

There are some private, but no public schools in my parish.

Have you a Parochial Library? If you have, are the Books preserved, and kept in good condition? Have you any particular rules and orders for the preserving of them? Are those rules and orders duly observed?

I have a small Library, the Books kept by me in good condition, & according to act of assembly, twice yearly visited by the vestry.

JN^o DONALDSON.

ST ANN'S PARISH, AT ANNAPOLIS.

How long is it since you went over to the Plantations as a Missionary?
9 years last August.

Have you had any other Church, before you came to that which you now possess; and if you had, what Church was it, and how long have you been removed?

I have had no other church.

Have you been duly Licensed by the Bishop of London to officiate as a Missionary, in the Government where you now are?

Yes, I have.

How long have you been Inducted into your Living?

9 years last Nov.

Are you ordinarily resident in the Parish to which you have been Inducted?

Yes, I am.

Of what extent is your Parish, and how many Families are there in it?

40 miles in length, & consists of 130 families, or thereabouts.

Are there any Infidels, bond or free, within your Parish; and what means are used for their conversion?

There are no Heathens, except some negro slaves, many of whom, after Instruction from their masters and from me, when sent, and after due examination, are daily admitted to Baptism.

How oft is Divine Service performed in your Church? And what proportion of the Parishioners attend it?

Every Sunday twice, every Wednesday & Friday, & every holiday.

How oft is the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper administered? And what is the usual number of Communicants?

Once every month, besides the great festivals; the usual number of communicants is 30.

At what times do you Catechise the Youth of your Parish?

Every Sunday, Wednesday, & Friday in Lent.

Are all things duly disposed and provided in the Church, for the decent and orderly performance of Divine Service?

Yes; as far as the circumstances of the place will allow.

Of what value is your Living in sterling money, and how does it arise?

That is uncertain, it arising from Tobacco, which is of a value uncertain.

Have you a House and Glebe? Is your Glebe in Lease, or Let by the Year? Or is it occupied by yourself?

I have no house nor Glebe.

Have you more Cures than one? If you have, what are they? And in what manner served?

I have no other cure but this parish.

Have you in your Parish any public School for the instruction of Youth? If you have, is it endowed? And who is the Master?

There is a public free school here, maintained by a Fund raised by the country. The master's name is M^r. Michael.

Have you a Parochial Library? If you have, are the Books preserved, and kept in good condition? Have you any particular rules and orders for the preserving of them? Are those rules and orders duly observed?

Here is a tollerable good Provincial Library, but no parochial one. The books are well preserved.

SAMUEL SKIPPON.

CHRIST CHURCH, CALVERT COUNTY.

How long is it since you went over to the Plantations as a Missionary?
12 years.

Have you had any other Church, before you came to that which you now possess; and if you had, what Church was it, and how long have you been removed?

Was first possessed of William & Mary parish, in Charles County; removed to this Jan. 27, 1714-5.

Have you been duly Licensed by the Bishop of London to officiate as a Missionary, in the Government where you now are?

Duly licensed by the R^t Rev^d the Bishop of London for this Government. How long have you been Inducted into your Living?

About 9 years.

Are you ordinarily resident in the Parish to which you have been Inducted?
Constantly resident.

Of what extent is your Parish, and how many Families are there in it?

About 32 miles long & 6 or seven wide; number of families about 230.

Are there any Infidels, bond or free, within your Parish; and what means are used for their conversion?

No Infidels, but negro & mulatto slaves. Masters are press'd to instruct them & allow liberty to attend Divine service & other means of instruction; several have been baptized, & 2 are communicants.

How oft is Divine Service performed in your Church? And what proportion of the Parishioners attend it?

Every Lord's day & some Holidays; more have been attempted, but

without success. The greatest part of the parishioners constantly attend, except a few Papists & quakers, which are more numerous.

How oft is the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper administered? And what is the usual number of Communicants?

6 times a year; usual number of communicants about 40.

At what times do you Catechise the Youth of your Parish?

In Lent.

Are all things duly disposed and provided in the Church, for the decent and orderly performance of Divine Service?

Duly provided.

Of what value is your Living in sterling money, and how does it arise?

It arises in Tobacco, at 40 pounds per poll; the value in sterl: money I cannot ascertain, it is so variable; the quantity of Tobacco is likewise variable.

Have you a House and Glebe? Is your Glebe in Lease, or Let by the Year? Or is it occupied by yourself?

An House & Glebe occupied by myself.

Is due care taken to preserve your House in good repair? And at whose expense is it done?

Kept in good repair at my own Expence. The usual Rent of such an one is about 600 pounds of Tobacco, which falls short of the expence in repairing.

Have you more Cures than one? If you have, what are they? And in what manner served?

I have but one cure, in which is a church & a chapel, which are served alternately.

Have you in your Parish any public School for the instruction of Youth? If you have, is it endowed? And who is the Master?

None; but encouragem^t being lately given by an act of assembly for a school in Mary County, we have made some steps that way.

Have you a Parochial Library? If you have, are the Books preserved, and kept in good condition? Have you any particular rules and orders for the preserving of them? Are those rules and orders duly observed?

A small Library, kept in good condition; no rules, only subject to a visitation once in 6 months by the vestry, by vertue of an act of assembly.

JONATHAN CAY, Rector.

ALL FAITH PARISH IN ST MARY'S & CHARLES COUNTY, UPON PATUXENT RIVER, MARYLAND.

How long is it since you went over to the Plantations as a Missionary?
16 years ago, viz^t, in 1708.

Have you had any other Church, before you came to that which you now possess; and if you had, what Church was it, and how long have you been removed?

No other Church before I came to that I now possess.

Have you been duly Licensed by the Bishop of London to officiate as a Missionary, in the Government where you now are?

I have been duly licenced by the Right Rev^d Father in God, late Lord Bishop of London, P. M.

How long have you been Inducted into your Living?

I have been Inducted into my living almost 16 years, viz., ever since the latter end of July, 1708.

Are you ordinarily resident in the Parish to which you have been Inducted?

I have constantly resided in the parish to which I was first inducted.

Of what extent is your Parish, and how many Families are there in it?

My parish is 50 miles in length, between 3 & 4 miles broad; in all, 152 protestants & 52 popish families.

Are there any Infidels, bond or free, within your Parish? and what means are used for their conversion?

No Infidels that I know of but new negroes; all or most of the old are country born negroes.

How oft is Divine Service performed in your Church? And what proportion of the Parishioners attend it?

I have two Churches in my Parish, viz., a parish church & a chapel of Ease, above 20 miles distant from each other. I perform divine service in both churches every other Sunday throughout the year when the health of my Body & the weather will permit me to travel, & I have ordinary [word obliterated] number of Parishioners that attend in both churches, and often a full church in good weather.

How oft is the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper administered? And what is the usual number of Communicants?

I administer the Sacrament of the Lord's supper at least 3 times every year, some years four or five times; my usual number of Communicants are between 50 & 60, seldom fewer than 20.

At what times do you Catechise the Youth of your Parish?

I catechize the youth of my Parish as often as I can prevail with their parents & masters to send them to Church.

Are all things duly disposed and provided in the Church, for the decent and orderly performance of Divine Service?

I have taken care since I have been inducted into this Parish to get the church of my parish furnished with 2 sets of communion plate, two flaggons for wine, and cushions and vallons for the pulpit, for the decent and ordinary performance of Divine service.

Of what value is your Living in sterling money, and how does it arise?

My living arises in Tobacco, amounting to 2200 per ann., the clerks & sheriffs being deducted. The value of it is very uncertain and variable, some years more and some years less.

Have you a House and Glebe? Is your Glebe in Lease, or Let by the Year? Or is it occupied by yourself?

I have a Glebe and a small house upon it occupied by myself.

Is due care taken to preserve your House in good repair? And at whose expense is it done?

No care taken by the parish to the repairing of my house. I am at the whole expence myself this 12 years.

Have you more Cures than one? If you have, what are they? And in what manner served?

I Never had any more cures than one this 12 years.

Have you in your Parish any public School for the instruction of Youth? If you have, is it endowed? And who is the Master?

I have no publick school within my parish for the Instruction of youth, but we are a going about it.

Have you a Parochial Library? If you have, are the Books preserved, and kept in good condition? Have you any particular rules and orders for the preserving of them? Are those rules and orders duly observed?

I have no parochial Library as yet, but I expect one very quickly.

ROBT SCOTT.

WILLIAM AND MARY PARISH.

How long is it since you went over to the Plantations as a Missionary?

A year.

Have you had any other Church, before you came to that which you now possess; and if you had, what Church was it, and how long have you been removed?

No.

Have you been duly Licensed by the Bishop of London to officiate as a Missionary, in the Government where you now are?

Yes.

How long have you been Inducted into your Living?

A year.

Are you ordinarily resident in the Parish to which you have been Inducted?

Yes.

Of what extent is your Parish, and how many Families are there in it?

30 miles long & 10 wide. The number of the families unknown, because there are so many romans.

Are there any Infidels, bond or free, within your Parish; and what means are used for their conversion?

No, they are removed backwards.

How oft is Divine Service performed in your Church? And what proportion of the Parishioners attend it?

Once a day, by reason of the distance. I have two churches, which I attend each once a fortnight, &c., out of good levies. I've about 400 auditors, 300 at one church and 200 at another.

How oft is the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper administered? And what is the usual number of Communicants?

I have given it six times since my induction, & had the last time about an hundred communicants at each church.

At what times do you Catechise the Youth of your Parish?

At Lent.

Are all things duly disposed and provided in the Church, for the decent and orderly performance of Divine Service?

Since my service, the vestry have sent for all things necessary (viz^t), Plate, & books, &c.

Of what value is your Living in sterling money, and how does it arise?

About 80 pound, the 40 p^r pole computed at a penny current ⁷/₈ pound.

Have you a House and Glebe? Is your Glebe in Lease, or Let by the Year? Or is it occupied by yourself?

An Extraordinary Glebe of 400 acres left to the parish. The house very indifferent.

Is due care taken to preserve your House in good repair? And at whose expense is it done?

It has been repaired over & over. The vestry I hope will build a new one.

Have you more Cures than one? If you have, what are they? And in what manner served?

2, St George's & St Mary's.

Have you in your Parish any public School for the instruction of Youth? If you have, is it endowed? And who is the Master?

There are Gentlemen as Feoffees for the settling a free school in every parish of this Province, each school to have 100 acres of Land. The master of this is not chose yet.

Have you a Parochial Library? If you have, are the Books preserved, and kept in good condition? Have you any particular rules and orders for the preserving of them? Are those rules and orders duly observed?

Yes. Dr. Bray has requested this year a catalogue of ever Library, with the present state & condition of them. The Gent^{rs} of that vestry (when there is no incumbent to take care of them), but (with respect to my parish Library) They've been too remiss.

LEIGH MASSEY.

ST PAUL'S PARISH, PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY.

How long is it since you went over to the Plantations as a Missionary?

12 years.

Have you had any other Church, before you came to that which you now possess; and if you had, what Church was it, and how long have you been removed?

One in North Carolina for 2 years; removed thence by reason of the Indian war in those parts, and recommended by letter to the Governor of

Virginia to the Gov^t of Carolina. Staid in Virginia six years, & have been 4 years here.

Have you been duly Licensed by the Bishop of London to officiate as a Missionary, in the Government where you now are?

Duly Licensed by the Bishop of London.

How long have you been Inducted into your Living?

Three years & 9 months.

Are you ordinarily resident in the Parish to which you have been Inducted? Ordinarily resident.

Of what extent is your Parish, and how many Families are there in it?

30 miles in length, and near 10 in breadth. Number of families near 120.

Are there any Infidels, bond or free, within your Parish; and what means are used for their conversion?

No Infidels, but negroes & mullatoo slaves. They have free liberty from their masters to attend divine service & other means of instruction, & one of these slaves is a constant communicant, & at least 40 are baptized in a year, Infants & adults.

How oft is Divine Service performed in your Church? And what proportion of the Parishioners attend it?

Every Lord's day, & the greatest part of them attend divine service.

How oft is the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper administered? And what is the usual number of Communicants?

The 1st Sunday in every month, besides Xmas day, Easter day, & Whitsunday. The number of communicants seldom less than 60.

At what times do you Catechise the Youth of your Parish?

In the summer season, by reason of the length of the days, which gives children and slaves opportunity of coming from the remotest parts of the Parish to the church for that end.

Are all things duly disposed and provided in the Church, for the decent and orderly performance of Divine Service?

All things decently provided.

Of what value is your Living in sterling money, and how does it arise?

I cant determine the value in sterl: by reason of the great uncertainty of the commodity of Tobacco we are paid our salaries in.

Have you a House and Glebe? Is your Glebe in Lease, or Let by the Year? Or is it occupied by yourself?

A Glebe, but no house, for I found it so on my Induction. It lies untenanted.

Is due care taken to preserve your House in good repair? And at whose expense is it done?

No house to repair.

Have you more Cures than one? If you have, what are they? And in what manner served?

One cure, & in that a church and a chapel which are served thus: 2 Sundays at the church & the third at chapel.

Have you in your Parish any public School for the instruction of Youth? If you have, is it endowed? And who is the Master?

No public School, but encouragem^t lately given by act of assembly for that end.

Have you a Parochial Library? If you have, are the Books preserved, and kept in good condition? Have you any particular rules and orders for the preserving of them? Are those rules and orders duly observed?

A Parochial Library, but small, & 'tis kept in good condition.

GILES RAINSFORD.

ALL SAINTS' PARISH, IN CALVERT COUNTY.

How long is it since you went over to the Plantations as a Missionary?

11 years.

Have you had any other Church, before you came to that which you now possess; and if you had, what Church was it, and how long have you been removed?

Was first possessed of Shrewsbury Parish, in Kent County; removed to this May 11th, 1722.

Have you been duly Licensed by the Bishop of London to officiate as a Missionary, in the Government where you now are?

Duly Licensed by the Right Rev^d the Bishop of London for this Province. How long have you been Inducted into your Living?

About 2 years.

Are you ordinarily resident in the Parish to which you have been Inducted? Ordinarily resident.

Of what extent is your Parish, and how many Families are there in it?

About 16 miles long & 12 broad; number of families, 208.

Are there any Infidels, bond or free, within your Parish; and what means are used for their conversion?

No Infidels, but negroes & mullattoes. Slaves masters are pressed to instruct them, & allow liberty to attend divine service & other means of instruction; several have been baptized.

How oft is Divine Service performed in your Church? And what proportion of the Parishioners attend it?

Every Sunday & some holidays; more have been attempted, but without success. The greatest part of the Parishioners constantly attend.

How oft is the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper administered? And what is the usual number of Communicants?

12 times a year; usual number of communicants about 60.

At what times do you Catechise the Youth of your Parish?

In Lent.

Are all things duly disposed and provided in the Church, for the decent and orderly performance of Divine Service?

A surplice and font are wanting.

Of what value is your Living in sterling money, and how does it arise?

It arises in Tobacco, at 40 $\frac{1}{2}$ poll; the value in sterling cash I can't ascertain, it is so variable. The quantity of Tobacco is likewise variable.

Have you a House and Glebe? Is your Glebe in Lease, or Let by the Year? Or is it occupied by yourself?

We have no Glebe.

Have you more Cures than one? If you have, what are they? And in what manner served?

I have but one cure.

Have you in your Parish any public School for the Instruction of Youth? If you have, is it endowed? And who is the Master?

We have no Public School.

Have you a Parochial Library? If you have, are the Books preserved, and kept in good condition? Have you any particular rules and orders for the preserving of them? Are those rules and orders duly observed?

Library in my Possession; kept in good condition; no rules, only subject to be visited by the vestry twice a year by act of assembly.

JAMES WILLIAMSON, Rector.

ST JAMES'S PARISH, IN ANN-ARUNDL COY, MARYLAND.

How long is it since you went over to the Plantations as a Missionary?
4 years & a half.

Have you had any other Church, before you came to that which you now possess; and if you had, what Church was it, and how long have you been removed?

I was sent first to St George's Parish, in South Carolina, & removed hither anno domini 1721.

Have you been duly Licensed by the Bishop of London to officiate as a Missionary, in the Government where you now are?

I have a License in form for Carolina; but not only your Lordship's Predecessor's Letter of Leave to remove hither.

How long have you been Inducted into your Living?

I should have told your Lordship before had I had room, that I was inducted first to Westminster Parish in this city, & removed hither April 5, A. D. 1722.

Are you ordinarily resident in the Parish to which you have been Inducted?

I am constantly resident.

Of what extent is your Parish, and how many Families are there in it?

The extent of my parish is about 8 or 9 miles round my church, and contains about 150 families.

Are there any Infidels, bond or free, within your Parish; and what means are used for their conversion?

There are no Infidels in my Parish except negroes & mulatto slaves, some of which are instructed by their masters & mistresses, & 4 have been baptized in my time.

How oft is Divine Service performed in your Church? And what proportion of the Parishioners attend it?

Divine service is performed in my church on every Lord's Day, & on the principal holidays, and is generally attended by near $\frac{1}{2}$ of the parish, the remainder being Dissenters (viz.), 40 families of Quakers, 5 of Papists, 1 of Presbyterians, & 1 of Annabaptists.

How oft is the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper administered? And what is the usual number of Communicants?

I administer the Sacrament monthly, & have sometimes 20, sometimes 30, & sometimes 40 communicants.

At what times do you Catechise the Youth of your Parish?

I catechise the youth only in the spring of the year.

Are all things duly disposed and provided in the Church, for the decent and orderly performance of Divine Service?

Generally speaking, they are.

Of what value is your Living in sterling money, and how does it arise?

My revenue arises in Tobacco, but the Trade of that Commodity is so very uncertain, that I can give your Lordship no tolerable account of the value in sterling money.

Have you a House and Glebe? Is your Glebe in Lease, or Let by the Year? Or is it occupied by yourself?

I have a Glebe but no house on it; part of the Glebe I occupy myself & part I let by the year.

Have you more Cures than one? If you have, what are they? And in what manner served?

I have but one cure.

Have you in your Parish any public School for the instruction of Youth? If you have, is it endowed? And who is the Master?

I have no public school in my Parish.

Have you a Parochial Library? If you have, are the Books preserved, and kept in good condition? Have you any particular rules and orders for the preserving of them? Are those rules and orders duly observed?

I have a parochial Library, & by a Law of this Province the vestry is obliged to visit it twice in the year. The intent of which Law has been so well answered that not one book has been lost since the first Donation of it.

I am, my Lord,

Your Lordship's most obed^t serv^t,

28th May, 1724.

PETER TUSTIAN.

KING GEORGE'S PARISH, IN PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY, ON POTOMACK RIVER, MARYLAND.

How long is it since you went over to the Plantations as a Missionary?
23 years last Nov^r I arrived in Virginia.

Have you had any other Church, before you came to that which you

now possess; and if you had, what Church was it, and how long have you been removed?

I served Dr. Geo. Chalmers, rector of Hood, in the diocess of Durham & County of Northumb^d, in the capacity of a curate, annis 1697, 1698, 1699; the 1st four years after my arrival into Virginia, I was hired by the Parishioners, as the custom then was; obtained a permit from Gov^r Nicholson, removed into Maryland, and was inducted into Durham & Portobacco Parishes, in Charles county.

Have you been duly Licensed by the Bishop of London to officiate as a Missionary, in the Government where you now are?

Upon recommendation of the clergy of the Deanery of Banborough and the peculiars of the Dean & chapter of Durham, dated June 4th, 1700, to the then Bishop of London, & had License as a Missionary, dated at Fulham House, Aug^t 29, anno 1700, for Virginia.

How long have you been Inducted into your Living?

I was inducted into this parish March 15th, 1709-10. The only motive of my removal was my wife's real Estate being in this Parish, & am the first that ever was inducted into this parish.

Are you ordinarily resident in the Parish to which you have been Inducted?

I am ordinarily resident.

Of what extent is your Parish, and how many Families are there in it?

A frontier parish about 70 miles inhabited, the breadth about 4 miles for the lower 15 miles, 10 miles in breadth for the next 24 miles, and about 20 miles in breadth for the residue, about 1200 taxables & near 400 families.


Are there any Infidels, bond or free, within your Parish; and what means are used for their conversion?

The Bond slaves are negroes & mullatos, of wth sort I have baptized a great many, both infants, but particularly of adults. They frequent my churches ordinarily, & say their Catechism. The free are native Indians, who are aversed to Christianity.

How oft is Divine Service performed in your Church? And what proportion of the Parishioners attend it?

Sundays & some holidays; more were & still are attempted, but to no great effect; frequently a large auditory in both churches.

How oft is the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper administered? And what is the usual number of Communicants?



8 times a year ; sometimes about 50, sometimes about 70 Communicants in each place.

At what times do you Catechise the Youth of your Parish?

From Easter to Michaelmas.

Are all things duly disposed and provided in the Church, for the decent and orderly performance of Divine Service?

My Parish church in its infancy was twice built with timber of all [word illegible] the half of a poll to a reader ; the other half was not sufficient to pay the workmen & keep the wooden churches in repair, & lately built a new church with brick from the ground to the great expences of the Parishioners ; not yet able to purchase Glass for window plate, &c.

Of what value is your Living in sterling money, and how does it arise?

The Trade is so uncertain that it is impossible to give a Just account of the true value of it in ster. money.

Have you a House and Glebe? Is your Glebe in Lease, or Let by the Year? Or is it occupied by yourself?

I have a Glebe, not possessed by myself but let by the year, and no house.

Is due care taken to preserve your House in good repair? And at whose expense is it done?

Ut supra.

Have you more Cures than one? If you have, what are they? And in what manner served?

One cure only ; served thus : 3 Sundays I preach at my Parish church, the 4th at a chapel, and one week day every month I preach & catechise in the new settlements, and on another week day from Easter to Michaelmas I preach in a 4th place in another corner of my Parish, both which places are inconvenient to either church or chapel.

Have you in your Parish any public School for the instruction of Youth? If you have, is it endowed? And who is the Master?

Private schools only.

Have you a Parochial Library? If you have, are the Books preserved, and kept in good condition? Have you any particular rules and orders for the preserving of them? Are those rules and orders duly observed?

No, not one Book. This parish was but newly seated when D^r. Bray was in this Governm^t.

ANNAPOLIS, May 28, 1724.

J. FRASER.

ST BARNABAS, IN QUEEN ANN PARISH, PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY.

How long is it since you went over to the Plantations as a Missionary?
Fourteen years next March.

Have you had any other Church, before you came to that which you now possess; and if you had, what Church was it, and how long have you been removed?

I was missionary from the Honourable Society de propaganda Fide for two years in Pennsylvania. I removed from thence into this province by their Licence first obtained first to St Ann's Parish in Annapolis, where I was incumbent one year; from thence I removed to Saint Paul's in this county, where I was incumbent 4 years, from thence to this parish, where I have been 7 years next March.

Have you been duly Licensed by the Bishop of London to officiate as a Missionary, in the Government where you now are?

Duly Licensed for any part of America.

How long have you been Inducted into your Living?

7 years next March.

Are you ordinarily resident in the Parish to which you have been Inducted?

I am.

Of what extent is your Parish, and how many Families are there in it?

About 20 miles long & 12 broad; about 300 families in it.

Are there any Infidels, bond or free, within your Parish; and what means are used for their conversion?

None except negro or mullatto slaves. I often in my sermons press the necessity of their instruction. I catechise them in church and out of church, & have baptized great numbers of them; their issue are baptized when Infants.

How oft is Divine Service performed in your Church? And what proportion of the Parishioners attend it?

Every Sunday & most holidays; about 300 attend on Sundays, but not above 20 on holidays, & often fewer.

How oft is the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper administered? And what is the usual number of Communicants?

Twice in the month; once at the church and once at the chapel; about 60 communicants at each place.

At what times do you Catechise the Youth of your Parish?

At every Spring and fall, the weather being excessive hot in the summer, and excessive cold in the winter, prevents in these seasons.

Are all things duly disposed and provided in the Church, for the decent and orderly performance of Divine Service?

As decent as in any church in London that I have seen, & I have been in most great churches.

Of what value is your Living in sterling money, and how does it arise?

My benefice is in Tobacco, which makes it impossible to rate it certain in ster: money. Sometimes I make £200 a year sterling of it, and sometimes not £60, but oftener betwixt the two sums, as Tobacco rates in England.

Have you a House and Glebe? Is your Glebe in Lease, or Let by the Year? Or is it occupied by yourself?

I have neither house nor Glebe, but design a Plantation of my own for my successors.

Have you more Cures than one? If you have, what are they? And in what manner served?

But one cure, a church & chapel, the chapel begun by my wife at her own expence, & since finished by me for the use of an extreme part of the parish; well & decently beautified; Divine service every 3^d Sunday at it.

Have you in your Parish any public School for the instruction of Youth? If you have, is it endowed? And who is the Master?

None but private schools.

Have you a Parochial Library? If you have, are the Books preserved, and kept in good condition? Have you any particular rules and orders for the preserving of them? Are those rules and orders duly observed?

I have no parochial Library, but a tolerable one of my own.

JACOB HENDERSON.

PORTOBACCO & DURHAM.

How long is it since you went over to the Plantations as a Missionary?
13 years and a half.

Have you had any other Church, before you came to that which you now possess; and if you had, what Church was it, and how long have you been removed?

I had none.

Have you been duly Licensed by the Bishop of London to officiate as a Missionary, in the Government where you now are?

Yes.

How long have you been Inducted into your Living?

13 years.

Are you ordinarily resident in the Parish to which you have been Inducted?

Yes.

Of what extent is your Parish, and how many Families are there in it?

It is about 20 miles square, and there are about 300 families in both Parishes.

Are there any Infidels, bond or free, within your Parish; and what means are used for their conversion?

There are several negroes and mulattoes, most of which are bound slaves. Their masters are exhorted to instruct them in the Christian Religion, & several are baptized & frequent the Church.

How oft is Divine Service performed in your Church? And what proportion of the Parishioners attend it?

Divine service is performed on all Sundays & most holidays alternately at each parish church, where most of the Parishioners are present, & give constant attendance.

How oft is the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper administered? And what is the usual number of Communicants?

About 6 times at each church every year; the number of communicants uncertain, sometimes 40, sometimes 50, & often more.

At what times do you Catechise the Youth of your Parish?

I most commonly go to the schools in the parish where there are many youths & catechize them there.

Are all things duly disposed and provided in the Church, for the decent and orderly performance of Divine Service?

Yes.

Of what value is your Living in sterling money, and how does it arise?

The value of my living in sterling money is very uncertain, Tobacco, out of which it arises, being sometimes sold for more than at other times, but I guess it to be worth about £80 per ann.

Have you a House and Glebe? Is your Glebe in Lease, or Let by the Year. Or is it occupied by yourself?

I have a Glebe, but no house ; it never was leased or occupied by myself or any other in Portobacco Parish ; and another in Durham, which is so mean that no man can live in it.

Is due care taken to preserve your House in good repair ? And at whose expense is it done ?

The above answer resolves this question.

Have you more Cures than one ? If you have, what are they ? And in what manner served ?

I have 2, which were always served as before declared (*i. e.*), once in a fortnight on Sundays, besides holidays, Divine service is performed at each parish church.

Have you in your Parish any public School for the instruction of Youth ? If you have, is it endowed ? And who is the Master ?

As yet there is no school endowed in my Parish, though there are 7 or 8 private schools in it.

Have you a Parochial Library ? If you have, are the Books preserved, and kept in good condition ? Have you any particular rules and orders for the preserving of them ? Are those rules and orders duly observed ?

I have a small library in Durham parish. All the Books that I received when inducted are extant & lye in a very good condition. The rules and orders for preserving them appointed by our General assembly are complied with.

WIL: MACONCHIE.

STEPNEY PARISH, IN SOMERSET COUNTY, MARYLAND.

How long is it since you went over to the Plantations as a Missionary ?
20 years.

Have you had any other Church, before you came to that which you now possess ; and if you had, what Church was it, and how long have you been removed ?

At first I had also the cure of the next parish, called Somerset parish.

Have you been duly Licensed by the Bishop of London to officiate as a Missionary, in the Government where you now are ?

Yes,

How long have you been Inducted into your Living ?

About 19 years.

Are you ordinarily resident in the Parish to which you have been Inducted?

Yes.

Of what extent is your Parish, and how many Families are there in it?

50 miles long, 16 miles wide, & about 400 families.

Are there any Infidels, bond or free, within your Parish; and what means are used for their conversion?

There are Indians & Negro slaves. Some Negroes are baptized after instruction in the Church Catechism, & frequent the public worship. No means used to convert the Indians; their language unknown to us.

How oft is Divine Service performed in your Church? And what proportion of the Parishioners attend it?

Upon the Lord's day & holy days in summer time some hundreds attend; in winter our congregations are small in church & both chapels, because the ways are very deep, & as the season is very cold.

How oft is the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper administered? And what is the usual number of Communicants?

It is uncertain sometimes; thrice or oftener as we can get wine; about 50 communicants at church, and about 40 in one of the chapels.

At what times do you Catechise the Youth of your Parish?

On Sundays.

Are all things duly disposed and provided in the Church, for the decent and orderly performance of Divine Service?

We have no furniture for the communion Table or pulpit.

Of what value is your Living in sterling money, and how does it arise?

It arises from 40 pounds tobacco £ poll; the number of taxables & price of tobacco is very uncertain; tobacco is of less value here than other counties; money or bills of Exchange for tobacco is *rara avis*. This year the merchants in their stores allowed us 4s per hundred pounds Tobacco, Goods at first cost, so that at this reckoning my living this year is about fifty five pounds sterling.

Have you a House and Glebe? Is your Glebe in Lease, or Let by the Year? Or is it occupied by yourself?

There is Land for a Glebe, but it is so poor that I never could get any person to live upon it.

Is due care taken to preserve your House in good repair? And at whose expense is it done?

Ut supra.

Have you more Cures than one? If you have, what are they? And in what manner served?

I have none.

Have you in your Parish any public School for the instruction of Youth? If you have, is it endowed? And who is the Master?

There are none, but several private schools.

Have you a Parochial Library? If you have, are the Books preserved, and kept in good condition? Have you any particular rules and orders for the preserving of them? Are those rules and orders duly observed?

We have some books, & in good order.

ALEX^a ADAMS.

CHRIST CHURCH PARISH, ON KENT ISLAND, IN MARYLAND.

How long is it since you went over to the Plantations as a Missionary?

17 years the 29th of May last, since I went over first, 9, the 16th Aug^t next, since I came over last.

Have you had any other Church, before you came to that which you now possess; and if you had, what Church was it, and how long have you been removed?

Yes, several; the last was that of Basstene, in the Christophers, only one person. I officiated at that of [illegible], in Newfoundland, whilst in my Journey hither, & thence I have arrived here 4 years ago the 31st of Oct^r last.

Have you been duly Licensed by the Bishop of London to officiate as a Missionary, in the Government where you now are?

I have 2 Licenses, one to the Leward Islands, another to the next province in this Continent, w^{ch} has been deemed and is commonly a sufficient authority for this or any other of the adjacent provinces.

How long have you been Inducted into your Living?

3 years The 16th May last.

Are you ordinarily resident in the Parish to which you have been Inducted?

Yes, I have not been a week out of it since inducted.

Of what extent is your Parish, and how many Families are there in it?

About 16 or 20 miles long, 3 & 7 wide, contains about a hundred families. Are there any Infidels, bond or free, within your Parish; and what means are used for their conversion?

There are negroes under the Government of their masters, & one family of them free, which are baptized, the chief means of use of benefiting any is by my endeavors to execute my office according to the established constitutions, *non aliter rege, alio modo*, as enjoined in my licence.

How oft is Divine Service performed in your Church? And what proportion of the Parishioners attend it?

Every Sunday, & on all chief holidays & others, if but a few come together. There is commonly a pretty full congregation on Sundays, if it be fair weather, about 2 or 300, but often much less. There is in my parish part of one family that are Quakers, part of 2 or 3 families that are Papists, which are all that I know of, that do wholly absent themselves.

How oft is the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper administered? And what is the usual number of Communicants?

3 times a year; from about 10, 20, to between 20 & 30. I have never made it my business to number them, but have often desired a foreknowledge at such times according to the Rubrick, but they have not yet altogether complied with it.

At what times do you Catechise the Youth of your Parish?

On Sundays in the congregation when they send 'em, as I have often importuned their parents & masters to do. Their children here are most young at school; the schoolmaster had promised to bring them last Lent, but has not yet performed.

Are all things duly disposed and provided in the Church, for the decent and orderly performance of Divine Service?

Yes, for the most part; we have not a carpet nor Linen for the communion table, but what is provided by me or the church wardens on sacram^t days, nor a surplice, but we have often had the procuring of it in agitation.

Of what value is your Living in sterling money, and how does it arise?

Of an uncertain value; from about 20 to above £30. It arises out of the number of the Taxables, which was this last year 260, which at 40 ^d poll amount to 10720; sheriff's dues, subtracted, 10184.

Have you a House and Glebe? Is your Glebe in Lease, or Let by the Year? Or is it occupied by yourself?

Yes, it is a freehold secured for the minister of this parish for ever, & I live upon it myself.

Is due care taken to preserve your House in good repair? And at whose expense is it done?

Yes, there has been some care taken at the Expence of the parish Levies laid up for such purposes whilst they had no minister. The old houses are left out of repair, but they have built me a new dwelling house, which is yet scarcely thoroughly finished.

Have you more Cures than one? If you have, what are they? And in what manner served?

No; I have but this Island, which makes but one small Parish.

Have you in your Parish any public School for the instruction of Youth? If you have, is it endowed? And who is the Master?

There are several small schools here, but none endowed. Ministers' names, Tho^s Handcock, Isaac Barnes, Jn^o Lawson.

Have you a Parochial Library? If you have, are the Books preserved, and kept in good condition? Have you any particular rules and orders for the preserving of them? Are those rules and orders duly observed?

We have no proper Library, but I have understood that there are a few books, with this mission or most of them, that they belong to this parish & are to be lent scattered about in several hands. I have endeavoured to get them together, but have only got three of different sorts, which I take care to preserve in as good condition as they were delivered me in. There is a Law about founding of Libraries, but the Books being so few and all of them not yet delivered into my hands, I have not concerned myself withall any farther than above ment^d, which is the chief on my part I think that is of any real significance.

June 3rd, 1724.

THO^s PHILLIPS.

ST PAUL'S, IN QUEEN ANN'S COUNTY, MARYLAND.

How long is it since you went over to the Plantations as a Missionary?

It is 13 years & 8 months since I arrived in Maryland.

Have you had any other Church, before you came to that which you now possess; and if you had, what Church was it, and how long have you been removed?

I was inducted into Allhallows parish, in Somerset County, first, & con-

tinued there 2 years, & in Nov^r, 1713, I was inducted into St Paul's, where I have now been 10 years & almost 7 months.

Have you been duly Licensed by the Bishop of London to officiate as a Missionary, in the Government where you now are ?

I was licensed by the Bishop of London, Feb^r 23, 1710, to officiate in this province.

How long have you been Inducted into your Living ?

I have been inducted into my living 10 years & 7 months.

Are you ordinarily resident in the Parish to which you have been Inducted ?

I have been constantly resident in my parish.

Of what extent is your Parish, and how many Families are there in it ?

My parish is in extent about 40 miles, & in breadth near 20 miles, & contains in it 542 families, of which many are Roman Catholics and some Quakers.

Are there any Infidels, bond or free, within your Parish ; and what means are used for their conversion ?

There are no Infidels but negroes who are slaves, & have no time allowed them by their masters but on the Lord's days only, & many permit them on 3 days, to make provision for themselves.

How oft is Divine Service performed in your Church ? And what proportion of the Parishioners attend it ?

Divine service is performed every other Lord's day in the parish church & Chapels of Ease by me & a reader whom I maintain at my own charges. In summer we have about 300 persons in the parish church, & in the chapels about 200. In winter as the weather permits.

How oft is the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper administered ? And what is the usual number of Communicants ?

The sacram^t is administered once in every month. The usual number of communicants in the parish church is between 60 & seventy, in the chapels 30 or 40 at a time.

At what times do you Catechise the Youth of your Parish ?

In the spring & autum, & those who live at a great distance from the Church I go to their several schools & inform myself how the masters discharge their duty, & I find them very diligent & careful therein.

Are all things duly disposed and provided in the Church, for the decent and orderly performance of Divine Service ?

All things are tolerably well disposed & provided in the Church for the decent & orderly performance of divine worship, only fonts are wanting, & the parish church very much out of repair.

Of what value is your Living in sterling money, and how does it arise?

The revenue of my living arising out of Tobacco makes the value of it uncertain. Tobacco for these 3 or 4 years hath been extremely low, & seldom gives a good price above 3 years together. I compute my living from 60 to a hundred & fifty pounds a year.

Have you a House and Glebe? Is your Glebe in Lease, or Let by the Year? Or is it occupied by yourself?

I have no house nor Glebe belonging to the Church in this Parish.

Is due care taken to preserve your House in good repair? And at whose expense is it done?

The house I live in being my own, is repaired by me at my own expences.

Have you more Cures than one? If you have, what are they? And in what manner served?

I have no cures but one; in my parish I have one church & 3 chapels of Ease, served by me & a reader.

Have you in your Parish any public School for the Instruction of Youth? If you have, is it endowed? And who is the Master?

We have no public school at present. One is to be erected in every county by an act of assembly, but how it will be endowed is not yet certain.

Have you a Parochial Library? If you have, are the Books preserved, and kept in good condition? Have you any particular rules and orders for the preserving of them? Are those rules and orders duly observed?

Our Parochial Library is very small. A catalogue of the Books I herewith send you. They are kept by me, & a catalogue of them signed by me put into the hands of the vestry, who view them once a year.

CHRIS: WILKINSON.

June 12th, 1724.

GREAT CHOPTANK PARISH, DORCHESTER COUNTY, IN MARYLAND.

How long is it since you went over to the Plantations as a Missionary?

I have been in Maryland as a missionary ever since the year of our Lord 1697 (viz, 27 years).

Have you had any other ~~Church~~ before you came to that which you now possess; and if you had, what Church was it, and how long have you been removed?

I was inducted into the parish above said, as also in that of Dorchester in s^d county at my very 1st arriving in the province, the last of which I resigned about 16 years since.

Have you been duly Licensed by the Bishop of London to officiate as a Missionary, in the Government where you now are?

I was duly licensed by Henry, the then Lord Bishop of London.

How long have you been Inducted into your Living?

This ans^d, *supra*.

Are you ordinarily resident in the Parish to which you have been Inducted?

I am, & have been constantly resident in the parish above said, unless for the space of 4 years that I resided in the parish of Dorchester afore-said.

Of what extent is your Parish, and how many Families are there in it?

The extent of my parish is 60 miles in length, in breadth in some places 25 or 30, & in other places 2 or 3. The number of families I can not acc^t for, the Estimate whereof may be made by [illegible] of Taxables, which is about 1000.

Are there any Infidels, bond or free, within your Parish; and what means are used for their conversion?

Negroes & mulattoes; many of them are baptized, & many others stand Candidates for Baptism every day. I have Indians in my parish that live under the free Government of their own petty princes, of whose conversion there has as yet no public means been used, but provisions now are resolved upon.

How oft is Divine Service performed in your Church? And what proportion of the Parishioners attend it?

I have in my parish one parish Church, wherein I constantly officiate at large every 2nd & 4th Lord's day in each month of the year. There are also 2 chapels in the same, the one whereof I supply on every 1st Lord's day in the month, & the other on every 3rd Sunday in the month, & another where I officiate every 5th Sunday that happens in the year, & when no such Sunday happens, I go to them once in the month on an appointed week day, so that each chapel is supplied once in every month & the parish church twice. The

2 former of these chapels are 20 miles distant from each other, & from the church the other is five & 30 miles.

How oft is the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper administered? And what is the usual number of Communicants?

For want of a competent number of communicants & necessities for the decent administration of the Lord's supper, The same is not as yet so frequently administered as I could desire, but however not less than 4 times in the year.

At what times do you Catechise the Youth of your Parish?

The youth are catechised in all the above said Congregations all the summer half year, during which season a considerable number of children attend in every congregation.

Are all things duly disposed and provided in the Church, for the decent and orderly performance of Divine Service?

With great regret of mind I declare that as yet my parishioners have not been prevailed with to provide the necessities for the decent performance of divine service, having neither surplice, pulpit cloth, nor Linen or vessels for the communion Table, but there is of late something of a fund beginning for these holy uses.

Of what value is your Living in sterling money, and how does it arise?

For the yearly value of my living (could I make the best advantage of it), *communibus annis*, it would be worth £150 per ann: but the exigencies of my family necessitating me to lay it out too soon in the year, & the distresses of the needy in my parish renders me unable of making the best advantage of it.

Have you a House and Glebe? Is your Glebe in Lease, or Let by the Year? Or is it occupied by yourself?

I have neither house nor Glebe.

Is due care taken to preserve your House in good repair? And at whose expense is it done?

Ut supra.

Have you more Cures than one? If you have, what are they? And in what manner served?

I have but one cure.

Have you in your Parish any public School for the instruction of Youth? If you have, is it endowed? And who is the Master?

There is in my parish one public school endowed with £20 current money, which is about £15 sterling yearly, for which the master is obliged to teach ten Charity scholars. The master is Philip Cilbeek.

Have you a Parochial Library? If you have, are the Books preserved, and kept in good condition? Have you any particular rules and orders for the preserving of them? Are those rules and orders duly observed?

I have a parochial Library, as well preserved & kept in as good condition as such things can well be expected to be kept in, & so they appear to the vestry, who, pursuant to act of assembly in that case provided, frequently view them.

THO^s HOWELL, Rector.

COVENTRY PARISH, IN SOMERSET COUNTY.

How long is it since you went over to the Plantations as a Missionary?

6 years.

Have you had any other Church, before you came to that which you now possess; and if you had, what Church was it, and how long have you been removed?

I had Westover Church in Virginia & have been removed 3 years.

Have you been duly Licensed by the Bishop of London to officiate as a Missionary, in the Government where you now are?

I was Licensed for the Governm^t of Virginia.

How long have you been Inducted into your Living?

3 years.

Are you ordinarily resident in the Parish to which you have been Inducted?

I am.

Of what extent is your Parish, and how many Families are there in it?

Of 35 miles & there are in it near 300 families.

Are there any Infidels, bond or free, within your Parish; and what means are used for their conversion?

There are Indians whose Language we dont understand & there are negro slaves whereof some come to Church & are baptized & others who neither by their own consent nor their masters are willing to be baptized.

How oft is Divine Service performed in your Church? And what proportion of the Parishioners attend it?

Every Lord's day & some holidays. In summer between 2 & 300 & in the winter fewer attend it.

How oft is the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper administered? And what is the usual number of Communicants?

5 or 6 times & we usually have 100 Communicants.

At what times do you Catechise the Youth of your Parish?

Every Sunday in summer after 2nd Lesson.

Are all things duly disposed and provided in the Church, for the decent and orderly performance of Divine Service?

All things are.

Of what value is your Living in sterling money, and how does it arise?

Our Living arises from 40 pounds of Tobacco levied on each taxable, the number of the Taxables & also the price of the Tobacco is very variable; this present year it's in this County 4s sterling in British goods at 1st cost at w^{ch} price my living amounts to £46 sterling but in this county we seldom can have money or Bills for it.

Have you a House and Glebe? Is your Glebe in Lease, or Let by the Year? Or is it occupied by yourself?

I have a very indifferent Glebe & an old ruinous house not fit for me to occupy, nor for any man to lease it.

Is due care taken to preserve your House in good repair? And at whose expense is it done?

There is no care taken.

Have you more Cures than one? If you have, what are they? And in what manner served?

I have but one.

Have you in your Parish any public School for the instruction of Youth? If you have, is it endowed? And who is the Master?

We have none.

Have you a Parochial Library? If you have, are the Books preserved, and kept in good condition? Have you any particular rules and orders for the preserving of them? Are those rules and orders duly observed?

We have but 15 books which we keep in good condition.

JA. ROBERTSON.

ST^H PAUL'S IN KENT COUNTY.

How long is it since you went over to the Plantations as a Missionary?

13 years.

Have you had any other Church, before you came to that which you now possess; and if you had, what Church was it, and how long have you been removed?

No other.

Have you been duly Licensed by the Bishop of London to officiate as a Missionary, in the Government where you now are?

By the Bishop of London.

How long have you been Inducted into your Living?

13 years.

Are you ordinarily resident in the Parish to which you have been Inducted?

Always resident.

Of what extent is your Parish, and how many Families are there in it?

24 miles in length & some places 10 in breadth.

Are there any Infidels, bond or free, within your Parish; and what means are used for their conversion?

Several negroes, some whereof belong to papists & Quakers & others, by not understanding our Language can receive no benefit by our Instruction.

How oft is Divine Service performed in your Church? And what proportion of the Parishioners attend it?

Every Sunday & the most noted holidays; on Sunday there is commonly a large Congregation.

How oft is the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper administered? And what is the usual number of Communicants?

4 times a year and about 100 Communicants.

At what times do you Catechise the Youth of your Parish?

Most frequently in the summer.

Are all things duly disposed and provided in the Church, for the decent and orderly performance of Divine Service?

They are tolerable considering the infancy of the Church.

Of what value is your Living in sterling money, and how does it arise?

The value is uncertain by reason we are paid in Tobacco & allowed 40 pound thereof for all white men & negroes.

Have you a House and Glebe? Is your Glebe in Lease, or Let by the Year? Or is it occupied by yourself?

There is a Glebe but no house; part of the Land serves for pasture.

Is due care taken to preserve your House in good repair? And at whose expense is it done?

My dwelling house is kept in repair at my own charge.

Have you more Cures than one? If you have, what are they? And in what manner served?

Only one.

Have you in your Parish any public School for the instruction of Youth? If you have, is it endowed? And who is the Master?

We are about having one public school in each County.

Have you a Parochial Library? If you have, are the Books preserved, and kept in good condition? Have you any particular rules and orders for the preserving of them? Are those rules and orders duly observed?

There are 28 Books (most of them small) belonging to the Parish & safe in my custody, & have good rules & orders for keeping Libraries in good condition provided we had them to take care of.

July 13, 1724.

ALEX^R WILLIAMSON.

ST PETER'S PARISH, TALBOTT COUNTY.

How long is it since you went over to the Plantations as a Missionary?

I came into this Parish 12 years next Nov^r.

Have you had any other Church, before you came to that which you now possess; and if you had, what Church was it, and how long have you been removed?

I had an Induction then to Westminster Parish in Ann Arundel County from whence I was removed to this parish I now possess in the year 1714 in May.

Have you been duly Licensed by the Bishop of London to officiate as a Missionary, in the Government where you now are?

I was Licenced by the then Henry Bishop of London.

How long have you been Inducted into your Living?

I was Inducted in this Parish 10 years last May.

Are you ordinarily resident in the Parish to which you have been Inducted?

I am a constant resident in my Parish.

Of what extent is your Parish, and how many Families are there in it?

My parish is 29 miles long & 14 miles broad; there are 344 families in it.

Are there any Infidels, bond or free, within your Parish; and what means are used for their conversion?

There are several negroes in my parish but no Indians, some whereof are capable of Instruction, some are not.

How oft is Divine Service performed in your Church? And what proportion of the Parishioners attend it?

Sundays & holidays; on the Lord's day I have a large Congregation, on holidays very small.

How oft is the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper administered? And what is the usual number of Communicants?

I administer the sacram^t of the Lord's supper on the 3 great festivals of the year & besides once a month; I have always pretty many.

At what times do you Catechise the Youth of your Parish?

In Winter I catechise on the holidays, in summer on Sundays.

Are all things duly disposed and provided in the Church, for the decent and orderly performance of Divine Service?

We want a set of plate for the Communion, having only a pewter one.

Of what value is your Living in sterling money, and how does it arise?

Our revenue arises in Tobacco the value of which is very uncertain; sometimes they allow at a penny a pound, sometimes less; when it is worth a penny a pound my living is worth £100 per ann.

Have you a House and Glebe? Is your Glebe in Lease, or Let by the Year? Or is it occupied by yourself?

I have a Glebe & a dwelling house upon it & I occupy it myself.

Is due care taken to preserve your House in good repair? And at whose expense is it done?

I was at the charge to build & keep the buildings in repair at my own charges, which has & is chargeable to me.

Have you more Cures than one? If you have, what are they? And in what manner served?

I have but one cure.

Have you in your Parish any public School for the instruction of Youth? If you have, is it endowed? And who is the Master?

There is a publick school lately endowed but no master pitched upon yet, there being no land yet purchased for him.

Have you a Parochial Library? If you have, are the Books preserved, and kept in good condition? Have you any particular rules and orders for the preserving of them? Are those rules and orders duly observed?

There is no parochial Library in this Parish, wth is a great detrim^t to me.

DANIEL MAYNADIER,

Rector of St. Peter's parish in Talbott County, Maryland.

SHREWSBURY PARISH, IN KENT COUNTY, PROVINCE OF MARYLAND.

How long is it since you went over to the Plantations as a Missionary?

This very day & hour 27 years.

Have you had any other Church, before you came to that which you now possess; and if you had, what Church was it, and how long have you been removed?

Removed from St. Stephen's in Cecill County the 17th Dec^r last.

Have you been duly Licensed by the Bishop of London to officiate as a Missionary, in the Government where you now are?

Yes, in 1697.

How long have you been Inducted into your Living?

On the 1st day of Aug^r last.

Are you ordinarily resident in the Parish to which you have been Inducted?

Constantly.

Of what extent is your Parish, and how many Families are there in it?

About 24 miles long and in some places 12 broad; the exact number not yet known till the boundaries are better settled.

Are there any Infidels, bond or free, within your Parish; and what means are used for their conversion?

No Indians but many Negro slaves, several baptized, 10 but on Sunday last, most children as they now grow up.

How oft is Divine Service performed in your Church? And what proportion of the Parishioners attend it?

Constantly & in good weather 3 or 400 attend.

How oft is the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper administered? And what is the usual number of Communicants?

4 times a year & near 100 Communicants.

At what times do you Catechise the Youth of your Parish?

Continually in private Houses & schools; I had between 6 and 7 hundred in my other Parish & have about 100 ready in this, wth when qualified appear at the parish Church.

Are all things duly disposed and provided in the Church, for the decent and orderly performance of Divine Service?

Tolerably.

Of what value is your Living in sterling money, and how does it arise?

This depends entirely upon trade w^{ch} is very precarious; in the smaller rivers it may be 30 or £60.

Have you a House and Glebe? Is your Glebe in Lease, or Let by the Year? Or is it occupied by yourself?

No house, a small Glebe but yet forest.

Have you more Cures than one? If you have, what are they? And in what manner served?

None.

Have you in your Parish any public School for the instruction of Youth? If you have, is it endowed? And who is the Master?

4 or 5 small ones just begun, about 60 children at them; an act is lately made for one public one in each County.

Have you a Parochial Library? If you have, are the Books preserved, and kept in good condition? Have you any particular rules and orders for the preserving of them? Are those rules and orders duly observed?

None located here.

RICH^d SEWELL,

1st June, 1724.

Rector Shrewsbury.

ST. MICHAEL'S PARISH, TALBOTT COUNTY, MARYLAND.

How long is it since you went over to the Plantations as a Missionary?
20 years.

Have you had any other Church, before you came to that which you now possess; and if you had, what Church was it, and how long have you been removed?

The cause of my coming a Missionary into these parts was to fulfill a condition on a Fellowship founded by Sir Leolin Jenkins in Jes. Col. oxon. I was

first sent into Pennsylvania by Bishop Compton & by his permission removed here & legally inducted into this living according to the laws of this Province by the then president Coll. Edw. Lloyd. My Induction is regularly entered in our Parish Register.

Have you been duly Licensed by the Bishop of London to officiate as a Missionary, in the Government where you now are?

I am & have my License by me.

How long have you been Inducted into your Living?

Sixteen years.

Are you ordinarily resident in the Parish to which you have been Inducted?

Constantly.

Of what extent is your Parish, and how many Families are there in it?

My parish (as other parishes mostly are) is of a great length, 30 miles long, & may contain 300 families.

Are there any Infidels, bond or free, within your Parish; and what means are used for their conversion?

What Infidels there, are negro slaves, & what means are used for their conversion, your Lordship knows by our general letter; however I have baptized several, & of quaker families a great many.

How oft is Divine Service performed in your Church? And what proportion of the Parishioners attend it?

Every Sunday alternately in my parish Church & chapel, every holiday in the year, & every Friday during the holy season of Lent. In the parish Church there are ordinarily $\frac{3}{4}$ or 400, in the chapel 150 or 200 ordinarily.

How oft is the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper administered? And what is the usual number of Communicants?

Our order in celebrating the Lord's supper is this: Besides every great festival, it is administered every 3rd Sunday in the parish church & every 3rd in the chapel, that is once in 3 weeks in one or the other. The number of Communicants in the parish Church is from 60 to 80 Communicants; in the chapel from 20 to 30.

At what times do you Catechise the Youth of your Parish?

Every holiday beginning generally on Easter Tuesday, & by Allhallow Tide I go thro' the whole Catechism. I read the Homilies on all other days,

because in the winter time children cannot be brought to Church by reason of the distance of the way & severity of the weather.

Are all things duly disposed and provided in the Church, for the decent and orderly performance of Divine Service?

Considering the circumstances of the parishioners things are pretty well. Our parish church has cost at several times more than £500. The Jersey Plate at the Com. Table cost £30. Our Pulpit & Com. Table . . . are decently adorned with blue cloth & good Linen. We have a new chapel in building, on w^{ch} there is already laid out above £200 & there are workmen now upon it to finish it.

Of what value is your Living in sterling money, and how does it arise?

The value of my living is variable; if Tobacco bears a good price it may be worth more than £100 per ann.; if it be low not near so much.

Have you a House and Glebe? Is your Glebe in Lease, or Let by the Year? Or is it occupied by yourself?

Having more to write upon this & the ensuing Query than can be comprized in these vacant spaces I beg leave to refer your Lordship to a paper annexed.

Is due care taken to preserve your House in good repair? And at whose expense is it done?

* * * * *

Have you more Cures than one? If you have, what are they? And in what manner served?

I have but this one only.

Have you in your Parish any public School for the instruction of Youth? If you have, is it endowed? And who is the Master?

There is no public school in my parish but our Governm^t has established a certain sum for erecting one in every county. There is about £250 in Cash towards buying Lands and building and there will be about £20 per ann. for a master, & we are in hopes will improve into a greater sum every year but things are in their infancy as yet.

Have you a Parochial Library? If you have, are the Books preserved, and kept in good condition? Have you any particular rules and orders for the preserving of them? Are those rules and orders duly observed?

There is a small parcel of good books sent here by Dr. Bray. The Books are in good order. There is a Law in the province that requires the vestry

to examine the parish Libraries, & if I must accuse my vestry of any neglect I believe they forbear the exercise of their power out of more respect to me than I deserve.

July 16, 1724.

HEN. NICOLS, Rector.

DORCHESTER PARISH, DORCHESTER COUNTY, IN MARYLAND.

How long is it since you went over to the Plantations as a Missionary?

I was sent over as a missionary about 12 years ago.

Have you had any other Church, before you came to that which you now possess; and if you had, what Church was it, and how long have you been removed?

I have had no other Church before I came to that which I now possess & still continue in it.

Have you been duly Licensed by the Bishop of London to officiate as a Missionary, in the Government where you now are?

I was duly Licensed by Henry, the then Lord Bishop of London.

How long have you been Inducted into your Living?

This ans^d *ut supra*.

Are you ordinarily resident in the Parish to which you have been Inducted?

I have been a resident in the parish about 12 years.

Of what extent is your Parish, and how many Families are there in it?

The extent of my Parish is near 50 miles in length. The number of families I can nowise account for, but the Estimate thereof may be made by the List of Taxables w^{ch} is about 400.

Are there any Infidels, bond or free, within your Parish; and what means are used for their conversion?

Negroes & Molattoes many of them are baptized & several others stand candidates for Baptism every day. I have a few Indians in my Parish that live under the Government of their own petty Princes, of whose conversion as yet no public means hath been used but Provisions are resolved upon.

How oft is Divine Service performed in your Church? And what proportion of the Parishioners attend it?

Divine service is performed in my parish Church 2 Sundays in the month, sometimes 3 Sundays, as it falls out, and at my Chapel of Ease 2 Sundays in

the month. I have several Islands in my parish, that the parishioners residing thereon can not so often tend the Church as they perhaps would do. Therefore I appoint certain week days to perform divine service on each Island and administer Baptism & catechise their children. My congregation in the church some times is about 100, in the Chapel about 200, & on the Islands the people resort so that they are sometimes 100.

How oft is the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper administered? And what is the usual number of Communicants?

For want of a competent number of Communicants & necessities for the decent administration of the Lord's supper, the same is not frequently administered as I could wish, but not less than 3 or 4 times in the year.

At what times do you Catechise the Youth of your Parish?

The youth are catechised in all the aforesaid places about 5 or six times in the summer season where there are but few youths that are capable but what attend the same.

Are all things duly disposed and provided in the Church, for the decent and orderly performance of Divine Service?

With great regret of mind I declare that as yet my parishioners have not been prevailed with to provide the necessities for the decent performance of Divine service, having neither surplice, pulpit Cloth nor Linen, or vessel for the communion Table, nor any prospect of any as I can perceive by the inclination of my Parishioners to provide such.

Of what value is your Living in sterling money, and how does it arise?

For the yearly value of my living it is about £35 sterling, which is a small salary for the trouble and pains I take in my parish. It is collected in the levy on each taxable 40 lbs. Tobacco $\frac{1}{4}$ poll & is collected by the sheriff.

Have you a House and Glebe? Is your Glebe in Lease, or Let by the Year? Or is it occupied by yourself?

I have had no house or Glebe since I have been in the parish nor any provision made for any.

Is due care taken to preserve your House in good repair? And at whose expense is it done?

Ut supra.

Have you more Cures than one? If you have, what are they? And in what manner served?

I have but 1 Cure since I have been in the parish, & for the manner of its being served I have (with modesty speaking) served it duly.

Have you in your Parish any public School for the instruction of Youth? If you have, is it endowed? And who is the Master?

I have no public school in the parish for the Instruction of youth at present, nor any prospect of there being one.

Have you a Parochial Library? If you have, are the Books preserved, and kept in good condition? Have you any particular rules and orders for the preserving of them? Are those rules and orders duly observed?

I have no parochial Library, w^{ch} hath been & still is a great discouragement & detriment to myself & several others of my well disposed people who are addicted to reading.

THO^s THOMSON, Rector.

QUERIES to be answered by the Persons who were Commissioners to my Predecessor.

What public Acts of Assembly have been made and confirmed relating to the Church or Clergy within that Government?

Several, viz., An Act for the establishment of religious worship, An Act for the disposal of the Churches' Revenues in the time of vacancy, Act for the publication of Marriages and for the ascertaining the fees thereof, a copy of which M^r. Henderson has sent to your Lordship.

How oft hath it been usual to hold a visitation of the clergy? How oft have you called a convention of them, and what has been the business ordinarily done and the method of proceeding in such Meetings?

Once in three years I visited the several Churches, Schools & Glebes. Once in the year the Clergy and Church wardens met, at which time they gave Presentments, and about 6 months after I went to the several Parishes of the persons presented; having first sent a citation for their appearance and a libel of their crimes annexed to it.

Does any Clergyman officiate who has not the Bishop's License for that Government?

Very few but who have the Bishop of London's Licence for some neighbouring Province.

What Parishes are there which have yet no Churches or Ministers?

None but what have Churches, and one only at present without a Minister, which is of small value and in a wet and low part of the Country (viz.) in Somerset County.

How is the Revenue of the Churches applied which arises during the vacancies?

Generally for the building or repairing of the Church & Chapels and some times towards the buying of a Glebe & building a house on it.

What are the ordinary prices of the necessities of life there?

The ordinary prices of the necessities of Life such as meat and drink are reasonable. Beef from $1\frac{1}{2}$ to 4 *d* a pound, Pork from 2*d* to 6*d* a pound, but we usually raise these ourselves for we have no markets. Our apparel is dear, never less than double the price of what it costs in England, but often more, as is also furniture for our houses.

Can you suggest anything that may be serviceable to Religion and conduce to the ease of the Clergy and their more comfortable subsistence, which you believe to be fairly practicable; and which will no way interfere with the authority of the Governor nor be judged an infringement of the rights of the people?

That Glebes and houses on them be provided. That Mulato's (once the right of the Church) be restored for Servants to manage the Glebe. That hogsheads of Tobacco better qualified be of Eight hundred weight, and that his Majesty would be pleased to allow us to every Parish a Tun or two of Tobacco custom free.

These do not interfere with the Government's authority nor is the least infringement of the people's rights; and so these that your Lordship would be pleased to permit a Bishop to come over among us for the better Government of the Church and Clergy and regulation of our Ecclesiastical affairs. By these religion would be promoted, The Parishes be made less, the Minister better able to discharge his duty, and the people have the opportunity of attending the Churches every Lord's day.

*An Extract of a Letter from M^r. GILES RAINSFORD,
dated from Maryland, April 10th, 1724.*

* * * I heartily beg for Bp: Patrick's Volumes as far as he goes on the Old Testament, with Whitby's 2 Vol: on the New; & Bp. Burnet's Pastoral Ease, but I dare presume no further, nor prescribe to a judgment so vastly superior to my own. I desired our late Commissary to convene the clergy of this shoar in order to address the present Bishop on his promotion to the see of London, who was very willing & desirous to do it, but told me he had no power lodged in him for that undertaking. They all know who their Bishop is, & if they forget the oath of Canonical obedience it is no fault of mine. M^r. Henderson, the Gentleman I mention, is truly exemplary in Piety, & one of a strict & sober life, & in my opinion highly deserving of his Lordship's favour in any instance whatever. There is no one Clergyman in the whole province has an estate to support the dignity of his Lordship's Commissary to himself, but it must be left to his Lordship to determine in this affair as he pleases. I am sorry to acquaint you, that we have among us men of our Robe of *most lewd & profligate lives*, men that have been presented & fined for *drunkenness & swearing*, & are carrying on the interest of the Devil & his Dominion with all their might, among the number of which was M^r. *James Williamson*, Rector of All Saints', & M^r. John Donaldson, rector of William & Mary Parish, the former of which his own Parishioners design to petition against to my Lord of London. I have a large field of discourse open before me on this melancholy subject, but must beg of you to conceal what I offer from the Bp. of London till you hear again from me which shall be some time this summer. M^r. Barret's behaviour during his continuance on board Cap^t Wilkinson has been the occasion of the Bp. of London's being hugely reflected on. The Cap^t reports that he was continually drunk with the Foremast men, that he went on shore at Portsmouth, raked it in the Gown, came aboard drunk, & challenged the Cap^t to fight him, upon which he sent him ashore & dismissed him from the ship; what's become of him I presume you know by this time, but the Inhabitants have returned the Cap^t thanks, & after an impious manner curs'd & damned the worthy

Bishop for designing such a person for 'em. I can assure you several Weak men were turning papists on that & other occasions, & altho' M^r. Cox is a man of a sober life & conversation, & they have it not in their power to object ag^t his morals, yet they do ag^t his Country, as being Irish. We have Popish Priests daily flocking in amongst us, & the whole province smells of Popish superstitions, &c. I wish these Caterpillars were destroyed; they poison apace our young Plants that are growing up. * * *

*The Clergy of the Western Shore to the Lord Bishop of
London.*

ANNAPOLIS, May 29th, 1724.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR LORDSHIP,

We, the Clergy of the Western Shore of the Province of Maryland, convened by his Excellency our Gov^r to propose any particulars to him wherein he might be servicable to the church or Clergy, & to consult the best manner of giving your Lordship the clearest light into the affairs of the church here, do with great joy & sincerity congratulate your Lordship on your accession to the see of London. That as our obedience is there fixt, so it affords us matter of great consolation, & is a happy presage of the future prosperity of our church, that your Lordship has begun in so wise and prudent a manner to pursue the good ends & purposes of your jurisdiction, & we question not by your powerful Influences all uncertainties & obstacles in the way of it will in a short time be explained & removed, to the great benefit of the church of God among us. We shall honestly & faithfully make answer respectfully to the Queries in your Lordship's circular letter to be transmitted herewith, and as we have endeavoured hitherto, so we are resolved more strictly, both by our Labours & examples, in conformity to your Lordship's pious admonitions expressed in your Lordship's letter, to prosecute most vigorously the true ends of our Function, & the greatest assistance or encouragem^t that we can ask or your Lordship vouchsafe us, is that as you have so happily engaged in this

good work unparallel'd by your predecessors, so that you would continue to perfect it, which in the strongest confidence we humbly implore your Lordship to do. We are all (blessed be God) zealously affected to his majesty King George & the Succession by Law established in his most illustrious house. We have the full enjoyment of our rights & privileges under the Governm^t of the R^t Hon. the Lord Proprietary, & we have been distinguished by particular favours from his Excell^y the present Gov^r. His administration is equal & just, & our obedience unfeigned & real, so that there is an intercourse of protection & favour & of duty & submission; such is our happiness at present. After having said so much, we think we have no more to do but to refer your Lordship to the Gent^l who was your Predecessor's commissary for any particulars that may be further serviceable to religion. We beg your Lordship's prayers, & are, may it please your Lordship, yours, &c., &c., &c.,

JAMES WILLIAMSON,

Rector of All Saints' Parish, in Calvert County.

JAMES COX,

Rector of Westminster Parish.

JACOB HENDERSON,

Rector of S^t Barnabas.

JOHN FRASER,

Rector of King George's parish in Prince George's County.

JOHNATHAN CAY,

Rector of Christ Church.

GILES RAINSFORD,

Rector of S^t Paul's.

WIL. MACONCHIE,

Rector of Portobacco & Durham, in Charles C^{ty}.

JOHN DONALDSON,

Rector of King & Queen Parish, in S^t Mary's & Charles C^{ty}.

WILL^m TYBBS,

Rector of S^t Paul's Parish, Baltimore County.

Mr. URMSTON to the Secretary.

CECIL COUNTY IN MARYLAND, June Ult. 1724.

REV^d SIR,

You may remember that I once had a mind to have gone with the D. of Portland; you were pleased to offer me that letter to a French Marquis who went with his grace. I thought my L^d D. of Kingston, who married the other's sister, might be more effectual. He spake to his brother, & his answer was that he should take no more into his family, & yet soon after entertained Charles Lamb. This was one of the many disappointments I met with whilst in Engl^d last. I was rude in not acquainting you with my departure, but believe you will be so good as to pardon that & many other libertys, particularly this long scrawl, w^{ch}, with humble resp^{ts}, will give you a further account of my unfortunate circumstances, w^{ch} I the rather communicate to you, knowing you to be no half Whig, half papist, as too many of the clergys now a days are.

You're to be acquainted that I went from London to New England, where I had some hopes of staying, but was prevented by the New Converts, one whereof had the offer if he would go to England & be ordained, & forthwith did, & is now min^r of the New Episcopal church in Boston, the only man that could have been thought of. He'll do more good there than any other. I left the place very contentedly, & went from New York, where I narrowly missed of being chaplain to the Fort & assistant to M^r. Vesey. Hearing that the Incumbent of Philadelphia was gone to England for his health, & left the place ill supplied, I hastened thither, was gladly rec^d of the people. About 6 months after we had the news of the death of the Incumbent aforesaid. I had written to my correspondent to get some friend to interceed with my then L^d of London to appoint me minister there. I never doubted of my friend's diligence nor his Lordship's favour, but my letters from England must certainly be intercepted. M^r. Talbot, the famous Rector of Burlington in the Jerseys supplanted me here. Gov^r Burnet hath been long displeased with him, by reason he is a notorious Jacobite, & will not pray for the King & Royal Family by name, only says the King & Prince, by w^{ch} 'tis obvious whom he means. He hath often endeavoured to persuade me to do so too (little less

than treason, I think, to go about to pervert the King's subjects from their duty & allegiance to his Majesty). He hath poisoned all the neighbouring clergy with his rebellious principles; they dare not pray otherwise than he does when he is present. He caused many of my hearers to leave the church. At last he gained his point, was accepted, & I kicked out very dirtily by the Vestry, who pretend that the Bishop of London is not Diocesan, nor hath any thing to do there more than another Bishop, so that any one that is lawfully ordained & Licenced by any Bishop, it matters not who, the Bishop of Rome, I suppose, Talbot & a many more will say, or any other, is capable of taking upon him any cure in America. I was not sorry for my removal from so precarious & slavish a place, where they require 2 sermons every Lord's day, Prayers all the week, & Homilies on Festivals, besides abundance of Funerals, Christnings at home, & sick to be visited; no settled salary, the church wardens go from house to house every 6 months, every one gives what he pleases, some times liberally, & on the least pretence or dislike, or it may be the persuasion of the church wardens & their adherents, they'l give nothing; & so they forced that worthy gentⁿ Dr. Evans & many others to leave the places. They love new faces. I was told that they had had 11 Min^{rs} within the space of 9 years. Ab^t 3 months after Talbot was gotten into his kingdom, some had the courage to go to S^r W^m Keith, who otherwise was well enough pleased with Talbot, & to tell his Excell^y that it was a shame such a fellow should be allowed to officiate in the church, & that if his Exc^y suffered him they would write to England against them both, where upon Talbot was sent away, & the place hath been vacant these 4 months. What is become of this great apostle I know not. Certainly Gov^r Burnet will not suffer him to return to Burlington. Some of his confed^{ts} have discovered that he is in [illegible] Orders, as many more rebels are. I have heard of no ordinations he has made as yet, but doubtless he'll persuade all the Clergy who are his creatures to be ordained again by him. To this end he came fraught from England with some of the most virulent & scandalous pamphlets he could pick up, that one I met with by chance whose title was the case truly stated, proving that all ordained by Bishops consecrated since or such as conformed & approved of the revolution are imposters, & the divine service is only to be performed by those who have been re-ordained by non-jurors, & that there are enough of them all over England to serve the church *Proli mores atque hominum fidem!*

As oldest Missionary he rec^d the 3 years' interest of the £2,000, the late

Archbishop of Canterbury his Legacy towards the support of a Bp. in the plantations, & is entitled to the same, till a Bp. be appointed. My L^d Chancellor did not know the man, or certainly he would never have admitted him to so great a favour. I went by land from Philadelphia to North Carolina, in order to take a view of Maryland & Virginia, & to sell my Plantation stock & goods. That done, I returned to Maryland, & am settled in Cecil County, a very promising thriving place; the income is between 33 & 34,000, which will be considerable when Tobacco bears a price.

I am, Rev^d Sir,

Your most obed^t,

JN^o URMSTON.

*The Clergy of the Eastern Shore of Maryland to the Lord
Bishop of London.*

July 16th, 1724.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR LORDSHIP,

We, the Clergy of that part of the province of Maryland that is situate on the Eastern Shore, being here at this time convened, on the occasion of a letter we have rec^d from your Lordship by the hands of the Rev. M^r. Wilkinson, take this opportunity to assure you that it is with due thankfulness we accept so great a favour, & unfeignedly congratulate your promotion to the see of London. Your Lordship's publick character & his Majesty's wisdom gives us no room to doubt of your zeal for Piety & religion, & for the maintenance of order & regularity in the church.

Such an opportunity as this with which you have so graciously presented our Petitions, we have of a long time heartily wished for, that our diocesan might be able to form a right judgment of the state of our churches.

The Grace of God (blessed be his holy name for it) doth so rule in our hearts that we have both our ordination vows & the end of our mission deeply imprinted in our minds. We are very sensible of the state of our churches, & what greater degree of diligence lies upon our heads to build our people up in Faith & practice, & how we exert ourselves we hope our faithful answer to your Lordship's enmies will give you full satisfaction.

We can truly say that we have no occasion to lament any thing so much

as the want of a regular spiritual discipline among us, to be a constant restraint upon persons of loose principles & corrupt lives; not that we have any reason to complain as if we were pestered with more of that sort of people, but possibly many fewer, yet where there are fewest there are too many. Nothing human can induce to make our religion more flourishing than this. There was a laudable attempt made to effect this in this province a few years ago, by the encouragem^t & earnest endeavours of our Gov^r at that time, but it would not take; the reasons pretended were the apprehensions of a popish inquisition, or some such [illegible] & ignorant excuse, whereas it was not thought convenient to express their real sentiments. Nothing certainly can be done more worthy your Lordship's wisdom & Piety & the benefit of his sacred majesty's favour, that the Establishing the episcopal authority here is not to its just extent, yet in some due measure.

To have any share in the administration of that authority is the furthest thing in the world from the expectation or desire of any one among us. We rather wish & believe it more expedient some other person might be sent in, with an hon^{ble} support, who will not fail of finding an easy work in his gov^t of us. Much less do we desire to have any concern in civil affairs; our little ambition of worldly respect & caution agⁿ giving any offence are a sure defence against all faults of that kind.

But notwithstanding, we are left almost naked of all assistance from the spiritual powers. Nothing shall be wanting that we can do to deserve the assistance of the temporal. We constantly pray for the life, health & wealth of King George, with honest hearts & not with our mouths only, & from well digested reflections upon the causes of the revolution form our judgments that our church & religion were thereby saved from impending destruction, & that the preservation of the Crown in the Protestant line is our only security from Popery, so that it is with all thankfulness to God & sincerity of hearts that we pray for our Sovereign & all his Royal Family, & shall study to influence as many as we can with these Loyal Principles; & with the same sincerity we honour our L^d Proprietary & our present Gov^r, who highly deserves our best respects & hearty obedience, for we have experienced nothing but benignity, condescension & goodness from them both ever since it hath pleased the Royal power to restore the gov^{mt} into the Lord Baltemore's hands, & unless it shall appear otherwise to that consummate wisdom, we, for our Parts, wish with all our hearts it may continue there.

We think ourselves highly concerned to return your Lordship an upright answer to your pious admonition concerning the exemplariness of our conversation, which we would to God we could say was absolutely inoffensive, but wherein soever we have offended we humbly beg pardon of God & his church, & do promise both to have our conversation honest in the sight of Aliens & the Enemies of our church.

Having said so much of ourselves, we must next pray your Lordship to call upon the secular part of this branch of your diocese that they would likewise come in to our aid, that they would not be wanting to the filling of the Christian church with more members, by consenting that care should be taken about their slaves, for the saving of their souls, & their own discharge of their indisputable duty; or rather that they would be willing to instruct them themselves, or cause them to be instructed in Christian knowledge, & to give all the encouragement they can to the few Indians that live near to us, which indeed are very few, in most parishes none at all, to hearken to our offers about their conversion to christianity.

As for our Parishes, most of us can say we have very few dissenters, & that our churches are well filled, & that a manifest reformation is wrought in the whole course of the lives of the Inhabitants of this country within these 20 or 30 years past, conspicuous as the sun at noon day, & is freely owned by all that have lived any time here. Some things we may chance, by your Lordship's permission, to lay before you in due time; but we are very loath to be too troublesome to your Lordship at one & that the first time. And as for any more particulars relating to our churches & parishes, we shall entirely refer your Lordship to our several answers to your queries, & for the truth & veracity of what we write appeal, according to your command, to that rev^d & worthy gent^a who was commissary to your Lordship's predecessor, only entreating your Lordship that unless you see cause to send some other proper person to have inspection of the churches here, you would please to appoint the same worthy gent^a again, there being none among us that are near so well qualified for that trust as he is.

And considering the manifest danger, charges, troubles, & manifold inconveniences that must attend our passing and repassing the great Bay, we earnestly petition that we may have the privilege of one particularly on this side, there being no fewer than 14 parishes here.

That God, by whose providence & the great favour of his sacred majesty

you have arrived to this great dignity in the English church, would continue you a blessing to these remote churches who are members of the same, are the daily prayers of your Lordship's most obedient & dutifull sons & servants,

THO: HOWELL, Rector of Great Choptonck in Dorchester County.

HEN: NICHOLS, Rector of St. Michael's, Talbot Co.

ALEX^a WILLIAMSON, rector of St. Paul's in Kent County.

RICHARD SEWELL, Rector of Shrewsbury in Kent County.

ALEXANDER ADAMS, rector of Stepney in Somerset County.

JAMES ROBERTSON, rector of Coventry in Somerset County.

THOMAS THOMSON, rector of Dorchester parish in Dorchester County.

DANIELL MAYNADIER, Rector of St. Peter's Parish.

Rev. M^r. RAINSFORD to the Secretary.

PATUXEN RIVER, MARYLAND, Aug^t 16th, 1724.

REV^d SIR,

The ships are all sailed out of our River, this one only excepted, & she lies so low down that I was obliged to ride 50 miles to send this by her. I no way doubt of your receiving what you were pleased to lend me when I was pinch'd. I find by M^r. Henderson that the Clergy's address is not as yet gone home, but will certainly by this opportunity, as he tells me. I writ you two letters by two several ships, & in them I mentioned something of the scandalous behaviour of some of our rascally clergy. M^r. Williamson is grown notorious & consummate in villainy. He is really an original for drinking & swearing. His own parishioners design to petition my Lord of London on the occasion, & a presbyterian minister is now gathering a congregation out of the disaffected part of his flock. M^r. Donaldson is so vile that the other day, being sent for to a dying person, came drunk, & the poor dying soul, seeing his

hopeful parson in that condition, refused the Sacrament at his hands, & died without it. He's notorious for lying & sins of the first magnitude. His own people can best describe him. Mr. Mackonchie is a mere nuisance, & makes the church stink. He fights and drinks on all occasions, &, as I am told, *alienas permolet uxores*. I have no time to enlarge; one thing occurs that is truly remarkable. The Papists (in which this province abounds) are petitioning the assembly to make negro women no taxables, whereby the salary of the clergy will be reduced to scarce a subsistence if it takes, but 'tis thought it will not; however, the papists show their teeth & would bite if they durst. They are truly intolerably ignorant even beyond description. I fear they have encouragem^t, & are upheld here & elsewhere. But I dare not write my mind for reasons I'll assign hereafter. You must think Sir I take no pleasure in raking into the filth of the clergy's lives, if there were but a bare probability of these men's leaving their ill courses, but since there remains no hopes of it, I think a check would be very seasonable without discovering the informer. This gent^l Maconchie is for bringing In the rebel I told you formerly of into Maryland out of Virginia; but I affirmed positively I would acquaint the Bishop of London with the whole matter if he did. It is a shame for Commissary Blair of Virginia to suffer him there. I shall say no more now, but expect to hear from you by the first shipping with the books I writ for. I have not half writ what I design for haste. I am, D^r Doctor, your most obed^t humble servant,

GILES RAINSFORD.

Mr. HENDERSON to the Bishop of London.

MARYLAND, Aug^t 16th, 1724.

RIGHT REV^d FATHER IN GOD,

Upon receipt of your letter of the 30th of Nov^r last, I dispatched the circular letters & queries to the several clergymen on this shore, & have now got all their returns, w^{ch} herewith I transmit to your Lordship, save that of the rev^d Mr. Joseph Colebatch, which I shall send by the first opportunity after it comes to hand.

I have, besides these & an answer to the Queries particularly directed to myself, sent copys of such of our acts of assembly as relate to our church, clergy & schools, with a copy also of the Lord Proprietaries charter, thinking they may be of use towards giving your Lordship the clearer insight into the constitution of their Province.

By the above your Lordship will have as full an account of our affairs as I am capable to give you, but there is one thing I cannot forbear acquainting your Lordship with, & that is the miserable state of our church in Pensilvania; the nonjuring schism has reached thither.

M^r. Talbot, minister of Burlington, returned from England about 2 years ago in Episcopal orders, though his orders till now of late have been kept up as a great secret, & D^r. Welton is arrived there about 6 weeks ago, as I'm credibly informed, in the same capacity, & the people of Philadelphia are so fond of him that they will have him right or wrong for their minister.

I am much afraid these gent^l will poison that people of that province. I cannot see what can prevent it but the speedy arrival of a Bishop there, one of the same order to confront them, for the people will rather take confirmation from them than have none at all, & by that means they'l hook them into the schism.

I am well assured they'l get no footing in this province, for I dare say his majesty King George has not subjects any where in his dominions more zealously attached to him than the clergy & Protestant laity here are.

I question not but your Lordship in your great wisdom will find out some expedient to prevent the ruin that threatens the church in that province. I need say no more, but to beg your Lordship's prayers for,

May it please your Lordship,

Your most dutiful son &

most obed^t humble Servant,

JACOB HENDERSON.

Mr. WILKINSON to the Bishop of London.

ST. PAUL'S, IN QUEEN ANN'S COUNTY, MARYLAND,
Sep^r 9th, 1724.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR LORDSHIP,

I received your Lordship's letters, which I transmitted to my brethren, & therewith return the answers I have rec^d from them, & the late Bishop of London's letters to me, with the gov^rs speech.

The exercise of the Episcopal Jurisdiction which your predecessor was pleased to commit to me being of great moment & new in those parts, I easily foresaw would be attended with some difficulties in the management of it, & that an error in our first steps would prove fatal to its future success, to prevent which as much as I could I convened the clergy & consulted with 'em w^h would be the most proper method of proceeding in that affair. We agreed upon certain articles, which I laid before the Govern^{mt}, & which I communicated to your Lordship's predecessor, who approved of them. I delivered the said articles to the clergy, & withall advised 'em to present none but such as were notoriously guilty, & privately with their church wardens & vestry men to admonish others. The first step I took after that was a personal visitation of the several parish churches & the few glebes & houses there are, advising 'em to repair what was amiss; at the same time I delivered citations to the church wardens to appear at the general convention, & licensed such school-masters as I found qualified to teach, enjoining them to be strict in catechising. The clergy & church wardens appeared at the time prefixed, brought in their presentm^{ts}, upon which I proceeded after the same manner used in the spiritual courts in England, as near as the circumstances of this country will permit. I did everything gratis of myself, without either Proctor or Register, & always went to the parish where the person presented dwelt, that I might take off all appearances of not appearing for want of money to defray their travelling charges. It has been owned by many that there was a visible reformation on our shore, the sight of one person performing penance struck a greater terror upon all offenders than all the pecuniary and corporal punishments which the secular courts inflict, as some of 'em have publicly acknowledged.

The greatest difficulties I have is to answer your Lordship's last query, how to ease the clergy & benefit religion. My answer (to which) I think neither touches the Gov^m authority nor any rights of the people. If Glebes & houses were provided as they were at first ordered, then the minister & his family would have a settlem^t at their first coming over, for want of which they are exposed to great inconveniences & charges, & if the Mulato's which were once the right of the church were restored, the Min^r would have no occasion to buy servants for the managem^t of his house & land; & supposing a stock of cattle & other things necessary for his subsistence were kept on the glebe, he might have at all times sufficient provision for himself & family which are not to be had on this shore, but only in a winter season. And if the tobacco which is paid us was better qualified (for we are generally paid in the worst), & the hogsheads 800 lbs. weight; this would lessen the greater charge we are at in collecting & fitting it for a market. And then we might have more parishes & ministers wth a competent maintainance, especially if his majesty would grant us the privilege of sending a tun or two of tobacco free of the customary dues paid to him & his officers. By this means we might supply ourselves wth books & other necessities which are not to be had here but at a very dear rate, for want of which we are forced to struggle with many difficulties on this shore, where tobacco is not so valuable as it is over the bay.

We have lately rec^d letters in this province which inform us that your Lordship condescends to have Bishops in America, & that the Society have resolved to send two, the one into the western Islands & the other into Virginia. In my opinion Maryland would be more convenient, being nearest the centre, having Virginia & Carolina on the one side, & Pensilvania, New York, & New England on the other. And that he may have a convenient residence, M^r. Henderson is willing to dispose of a tract of land of 2000 acres, with a very good dwelling house & other smaller houses, a good orchard & garden, & above 30 slaves, stocked with cattle, hogs, horses & sheep, which with good management will be sufficient for the maintenance of his family. It lieth in the freshes of Patuxent river, about 20 miles from Annapolis, in a pleasant and healthy part of the Country; the land is rich & high, has good pasturage meadows & arable lands, well furnished with wood for timbers & fuel, all which he is willing to dispose of for £4000, which, considering the very good buildings, the great quantity of cleared ground well

fenced in & its other appendages, is not dear; he would not part with it I believe on any acc^t but for the encouragem^t of a Bishop, who at his first coming over may find almost all the necessaries of life. If your Lordship & the Society do approve of this proposal, upon your treating with him very probably he may be induced to abate something of what he now offers it for. I beg your Lordship's blessing & prayers, & am, may it please your Lordship,

Your Lordship's most dutiful, &c., &c.,

CHRIS. WILKINSON.

Mr. WILKINSON to the Lord Bishop of London.

MARYLAND, CHESTER RIVER, IN QUEEN ANN'S COUNTY,

Nov^r 20th, 1724.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR LORDSHIP,

The reports of some attempts to break in upon the fundamentall law of our established religion & maintenance at our approaching assembly moved the clergy of our shore to send me to Annapolis, to observe and obviate, as I saw occasion, all such attempts. I had not been long there before I understood that several projects were privately concerted; but the better to effect their design, they resolved to begin with complaints of the clergy's gross neglects & immoralities, & upon those complaints to bring in a bill to appoint some lay persons to direct and inspect the conduct of the clergy in the discharge of their ministerial function, intending thereby to prevent the Romish Priests seducing the weals & unwary to their communion. The upper house not approving their proposal at the breaking up of the sessions, they sent from the Lower House this threatening message, that they would let the clergy know that their Law of religion was not like that of the Medes & Persians. I have herewith sent your Lordship a transcript of our representation presented to both houses, & the reply of the Lower house to it. I could not obtain so correct a copy of their reply (as I hope Mr. Henderson will, who attended the assembly to the last), for I was called home to visit some sick persons in my parish, & was myself seized with a fever & ague, which con-

tinues with me yet. The faults & follies of some clergymen are too gross to be excused or extenuated. But there are not above two that I know of on our shore, who deserve the severe sensure the lower house has given 'em. For the rest I think they are free from any scandalous crimes, & their diligence & industry in the discharge of their office is incredible. For should I tell your Lordship that many of us ride in a morning allmost 20 miles, & in summer time preach in the forenoon at one church & in the afternoon at another, & others preach every day in the week once in the month thro'out the whole year, where the parishes are of so large an extent, & the people so far distant from the church, that otherwise they would not have the opportunity of any instruction in the Christian religion; these things are true, which together with the many visits we are obliged to make on visiting & administering the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper to the sick & aged, & private Baptism to weak & young children, gives us little ease & respite. Yet notwithstanding we have an absolute necessity of an ecclesiasticall jurisdiction, & y^t some person be sent over either with an episcopal or delegated authority, to correct the immoralities of such clergymen as are guilty, & to silence the clamours of the ill affected, otherwise I fear that some thing may pass in the next assembly to the prejudice of our church. I am,

May it please your Lordship,

Your Lordship's most dutiful,

& most obed^t Serv^t,

CHRIS. WILKINSON.

*To the Honorable the Governor & the Upper and Lower
House of Assembly.*

*The humble representation of the Subscribers, such of the clergy as are now in
the city,*

SHEWETH,

That they are informed that a motion has been made in the honorable the Lower house to erect a Jurisdiction for the better Government of the Church

and Clergy, which they take to be a matter of the greatest concern to the established religion.

They humbly conceive that should such a Jurisdiction be placed in the hands of Laymen, that it would be inconsistent with the Lord Proprietary's Charter and with the rules of good reason, repugnant to the laws of the realm of Great Britain, destructive to the constitution of the Church of England, & w^t they can't in conscience submit to as being altogether opposite to the ordination vow, as they are ready to make appear if thereunto called.

That there is the utmost necessity for the enforcement of the Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction they readily grant, and have not been wanting heretofore to express their ardent desire for a law to facilitate the execution of it, as the only proper method to redress the grievances the Church labours under, and should the Legislature think it a matter fit for their consideration, the Clergy would gladly offered them their assistance in conferring upon proper heads for a Bill to that purpose.

CHRIS. WILKINSON,
PETER TUSTIAN,
SAM^l SKIPPON,

JACOB HENDERSON,
JAMES COX.

By the Lower House of Assembly.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HONOURS,

Having considered the representation of the Clergy sent us from your honors; and that it hath appeared to us that some Clergymen within this Province have behaved themselves in a manner so inconsistent with their character, and prejudicial to religion, that instead of being guides to the people and preventing their being misled by Popish Priests & other enemies of the Church of England, Their misbehaviour & ill example have been the most prevailing motives with several weak people to forsake the communion of the best Church in the world, and with others to look upon all religion as imposture & cheat, and that the irregularities complained of are presumed to

be owing in a great measure to the want of some Judicature to correct the offenders who, as appears by the representation now before us, claim an exemption from any jurisdiction in the hands of laymen, & that we see no probability of any jurisdiction being established which some, to avoid just punishment, are not willing to that they may have the same objection to make till the establishment of an unexceptionable Judicature. We think it our indisputable duty to make use of all the means in our power to put some check to parties so destructive of our Religion, and we do not make the least doubt of your honors' assistance and concurrence in so necessary a work; not but that such of the Clergy as conscientiously discharge their duty (which we hope are the greater number) will contribute their endeavors to frame such a law as may punish the misbehaviour of men of their own order whose actions tend to over throw what, by the most sacred obligation, they ought to support.

Mr. CALVERT to Lord Bishop of London.

ANNAPOLIS, 22 June, 1725.

MY LORD,

I embrace this opportunity by the Rev^d M^r. Henderson, whose affairs call him for England, to pay my duty to your Lordship, and to acquaint you how matters with respect to the Church go here.

At our last Sessions of Assembly the Lower house made an Essay towards erecting a Jurisdiction to correct the immoralities of the Clergy, without any complaints being made to them from any Parish of the Province, which I pretty much wondered at as a thing extraordinary and out the way, and would by no means yield to, because, in the first place, they were under your Lordship's inspection, and, in the next place, there did not appear such necessity for it as they alleged. In general, the clamour raised was groundless, for, to the best of my observation, the majority have behaved themselves very well as good Clergymen and good subjects.

The Bearer has copies of the Messages that passed between the two houses, and can inform your Lordship more particularly. I heartily recom-

mend him to your Lordship's favor, as a person that has done good service here, very careful in his conduct and diligent in the discharge of his Ministerial duties. If your Lordship can direct me to anything that may be of service to Religion, my endeavors shall not be wanting to effect it.

I am, &c,

CHA. CALVERT.

Mr. HUMPHREYS to the Secretary.

ANNAPOLIS, July 6th, 1725.

SIR,

It having pleased God to make a Vacancy in the Church by the death of the Reverend Mr. Samuel Skippon, and the great necessity of my affairs obliging me to seek a more comfortable subsistence for my Family than the salary allowed by the Honorable Society afforded me in Chester, I accepted of an invitation from this parish, into which I have been Inducted by his Excellency Colonel Calvert, Governor of this province. In my last from Chester, by Mr. Richard Marsden, I intimated my design of leaving the Mission unless my salary were augmented, but not having great reason to expect that favor from the Venerable Society, who had before denied it to myself and other men of worth engaged in the same service, I embraced this providential opportunity of delivering myself from a state of Life distressed enough. I am so much attached to the Venerable Society that it will be a great affliction to me if I have incurred their displeasure by my removal, but I hope I shall with much difficulty obtain a pardon for their poor Missionary, who had been 14 Years struggling with poverty and labor. I have eased them of a querulous mendicant, who was a perpetual trouble to them by his clamorous importunity's. I cannot sufficiently lament the dismal necessity which constrained me to leave an Employ so very honorable, so very suitable to my inclination, and I am full of grief whilst I reflect on the difficulty's which impeded my longer stay in a place which nature and great labor and fatigue had rendered very agreeable to me, but which I could never make my own, notwithstanding I almost starved myself for 7 years to accomplish it. All this and much more of the like nature has driven me from the Mission, but nothing shall be ever

able to destroy the great veneration I have long entertained for the venerable Society, whom I earnestly entreat for (Lord Jesus') sake to send a Gent to succeed me; my leaving that people will, I verily think, be of service to religion, for thereby they will be better apprized of the necessity of valuing and supporting their pastor. I left Chester 3 weeks before my last quarter was compleated, but I hope the Venerable Society will order the payment of the Bill. I have drawn for the whole. I pray, however, it may not be sent back protested, and I will pay the overplus to whomsoever they shall appoint to receive it. I pray the great God to crown the pious Endeavours of the venerable Society, &c.

I am, Sir,

Your very humble Serv^t,

JOHN HUMPHREYS.

Mr. RAINSFORD to Lord Bishop of London.

MARYLAND, July 22^d, 1725.

MY LORD,

I think it my duty to acquaint your Lordship with all proceedings relating to the church in this Government, and I judge it improper to address a person in your exalted station with any thing but what may be of moment & bear the test of a review. I shall lay before your Lordship the main reason that induced me to give you this trouble. We have in this Province a vast number of Jesuits, who, by their Sophistry and cunning, make Proselytes daily throughout the whole Government. They are advanced to such heights of assurance as to send public challenges, and to disperse their Popish Books thro' all quarters of the Country. The enclosed paper to me is an instance where I am obliged either to answer or give up the cause. I no way doubt (when my reply is ready) but I shall be able to check the force and damm up the current of such proceedings. I need not tell your Lordship that those of this order are men of subtilty and politics. They are generally very careful to approve themselves to the world. They suffer nothing unattempted which may raise their credit in the judgment of the people. This is obvious from

their deluding the credulous. They take vast pains to ward off any disadvantageous measures that may shed disparagement on their Society. In short, they are so numerous that their name is Legion. They possess the people, and nothing but a regal power can cast them out. Upon what bottom they subsist amongst us; how their privileges are maintained and their encroachments supported, I can but guess at. All I shall observe is this, that in time it may prove fatal thus to give them liberty to propagate their kind, for every proselyte they make a subject's lost, & as they encrease, the interest of our Church and King must proportionably sink. Your Lordship, in your Wisdom, knows best how to put a stop to the growing evil. The grievance is not redressed here, & their friends & money are too powerful a spirit (when raised) for the feeble attacks of a contemptible adversary to lay again. Now I think 'tis every man's business to discourage superstition, to stop the progress of idolatry, and help those to right that suffer wrong. He that seek an infection spread, and won't be quick with his antidote, is guilty as far as the morality reaches. This single consideration worked me up to this height of presumption in writing to you, and tho' the freedom be some what singular, I hope it may be pardoned, since taken in defence of truth and on the score of religion. When the wolf approaches the fold with intent to kill and destroy, 'tis then high time for the Shepherd to stir. Since I began this letter, I received the enclosed from Philip Lee, Esq', one of the Council of this Province. I am continually pressed to disputations by these Papists, & tho' I shamefully foiled Peter Atwood, one of the Jesuits & their best disputant, yet the rest of them are plying daily for another attack. I am singled out from the rest of our Clergy, by reason they look upon me to be best read in the controversy between us. These disputes take me from a study of another nature, which, in the end, would turn to better account both to myself and those under my care. I have now in hand an answer to a Book entituled modern controversy, which in a small time I design to publish with some remarks that may be of use hereafter. I have no more to add, but am, with profound duty & submission,

Your Lordship's

Most obedient Son & Servant,

GILES RAINSFORD.

Mr. BORDLEY to the Secretary.

MARYLAND, Aug^t 9th, 1725.

SIR,

I am extremely obliged for your favor of Nov^r the 9th, with the copies therewith sent. This waits on you at the instance of my honest countrymen, the churchmen of these parts, who from what they have heard of your inclinations to serve the Plantations, presume on your generall inclinations to do good to such as are but even in danger of affliction, which they think to be their present case. Our church is in its infancy; many of the Clergy whose lives ought to be most exemplary in the establishing a church, are loose enough to destroy one already established. This calls loudly for some ecclesiastical superior that might check, restrain, or punish the irregular, or if their case so require, remove them to make room for clergymen of such conduct as the exigencies of a christian church require. Now we are much concerned at the want of such a jurisdiction, but much more so for the apprehensions we are under that it may be supplied more to our grief & the scandal of the church than as we were before, if the scheme of Mr. Jacob Henderson should weigh with my Lord of London or others so far as to Commissionate him to this jurisdiction; who is said here to be come home in order to apply for such jurisdiction, & to take his Doctor's & Master's, &c., degrees to qualify himself to wear it in the dignity of a Bishop. These things are only surmises; but the ambition of the man inclines us to think he would move in it; and the soft & saintlike manner in which he can apply gives us fear of his success, than which nothing I can readily think of would be more Fatal nor more likely to overthrow the present establishment of the 40 ^s poll for the support of our ministers. He is of a turbulent & haughty spirit, & very contentious, of a wrangling disposition, & delights much in busying himself with politicks of state that least concern him. He refused taking the oaths to the gov^m^t till it was peremptorily insisted upon by our late Gov^r Hart, & then he desired an eminent magistrate to give him a certificate that he had taken them in order to evade the taking them, but that being denied him, he at length took them, but from being that Gov^r's intimate friend, became his utter enemy ever after, & was remarkably conversant with the Papists & reputed Jacobites that were

at enmity with the Gov^t from that time. This & more on enquiry may be authentically certified from home if need be. If you should hear anything of this man's advances of this kind, your contriving his Lordship such notice hereof as might induce him to enquire into his character before he preferred him would be all that is desired. He is one of those Irish churchmen that declares (as I have heard him) he had rather be a papist than a Presbyterian. If anything in this falls in your way it will be an opportunity to you to do good, which I know you delight in, if not I know your goodness can excuse this trouble. I wait with great desire for your answer to what I wrote you of the 11th of Jan^y last, & am, with strict regard, &c.,

T. BORDLEY.

Rev^d. Mr. WILKINSON to the Bishop of London.

CHESTER RIVER IN QUEEN ANN'S COUNTY, MARYLAND,
June 15, 1726.

MY LORD,

Our Assembly are now at last resolved not only to lessen our Revenues, but also to divide several if not all our Parishes, which will make our maintenance so mean & contemptible that it will both starve us & discourage others from coming into this Province. They are also resolved to establish a Jurisdiction of Lay Persons over us, & will do it unless our Governor (who is the only Friend we can depend on here) refuse his consent to it.

I think, indeed, our Parishes too large, but unless they can proportionably advance the prices & value of the remaining Tobacco to what they deduct from it, we must necessarily use some other endeavours for the supply of our Families. Besides, we are so much burthened with the entertainment of Travellers, thro' the want of convenient Houses for that purpose, that a better maintenance than we have at present will not be sufficient to allow them hospitality. I, for my part, have been obliged to lodge & provide for Man & Horse at least three Nights a week ever since March last. I understand that in & about London they are now dividing Parishes. I heartily wish that your Lordship would be pleased to permit your Chaplain or Secretary to

inform us how they secure the present Incumbent his Revenue, & whether they take any of it for the maintenance of the new Parish. I find the Parliament had that affair under consideration, but do not understand how it was determined. I understood Dr. Welton has left Philadelphia, and is gone for Lisbon. He & the rest of the non-jurors disagreed very much among themselves, in so much that they avoided one another's company. Mr. Talbot & Mr. Smith (who also differ very much in their sentiments of submission to our Established Government) have been with us in Maryland. They behaved themselves very modestly, avoided talking very much, & resolved to submit quietly to the Orders sent from England to prohibit their publick officiating in any of the churches or to set up Separate Meetings. I suppose your Lordship never received the Letter I writ concerning Mr. Henderson's offering his House & Tract of Land, with all his Negroes & Stock, for a small sum towards the maintenance of a Bishop here, for he told me you never mentioned it to him.

I crave your Lordship's blessing, and am,

May it please your Lordship,

Your Lordship's

Most dutiful Son & humble Servant,

CHRIS: WILKINSON.

Mr. CALVERT to the Bishop of London.

1 July. 1726.

MY LORD,

The bearer, the Rev^d Mr. Tustian, going for England, I could not neglect so good an opportunity of paying my devoir to your Lordship, & it is with some concern that I am at the same time obliged to represent to your Lordship the case of a most malicious man, Thos. Bordley, a person who has practised in the law here many years, but since my coming to the Government has been a restless enemy to it. He got into the lower House of Assembly some time ago, and there he endeavoured to stir them up to kick against the King's prerogative as well as his Lordship's the Proprietor.

He has made it his chief business to bring the upper house, the Council of

the Province into contempt with the people, has created very great misunderstandings between the two houses, & to crown his Malice, because the Clergy are well wishers to the Government, he has done all he can against their interest and reputation, for he began with representing some of them as scandalous in their lives, and attempted to set a lay jurisdiction over them, and last Assembly he attempted to take away part of their subsistence, the forty per poll.

He is now going for England to pursue his wicked designs, and tho' I am under no apprehensions of its being in his power to hurt me, I am apt to believe he'll be with your Lordship to bespatter the Clergy. I hope your Lordship will give . . . [illegible] . . . to him, but as I have made it my business . . . [illegible] . . . into their Affairs I hope I shall be relied upon . . . [illegible] . . . state their case when there is a necessity for it, & shall esteem myself happy in doing the Clergy service, as well as in obeying your Lordship's Commands, and am

Your Lordship's obedt. Servt.,

CHARLES CALVERT.

The Vestry of Kent Island to the Bishop of London.

MARYLAND, KENT ISLAND, July, 1726.

MY LORD,

An address of this nature seems to require a better apology than we are capable of, for in real verity it is with great regret, that we are obliged to trouble your Lordship by laying before you our grievance, it being a matter of the last consequence, & relating to the deepest concernment (*i. e.*), the salvation of our souls, hath rendered it indispensibly necessary to us and the character your Lordship's piety and wisdom hath acquired in the world hath encouraged us to presume that your Lordship will not only consider our complaint, but by God's grace & your own prudential pity procure us a remedy.

The case is this, a reverend Gentleman named Thomas Phillips, who has received the holy order of priesthood, happened here, and being without a benefice & our Parish a great while a desolate vacancy without incumbent we were very desirous of his induction, which we endeavoured in vain above a

year, during which time he behaved himself gravely reverently and piously to outward appearance, but since his induction he has quite altered his behavior, For,

I. Let any person's business with him be as secret or urgent as is possible he is utterly inaccessible till he has by his servant or servants, by several messages and returns, open'd and related, the inmost purport of his or their intentions before a personal conference can be obtained, and frequently then be driven out of doors with opprobrious, scurrilous & abusive language.

II. Touching visiting the sick, the most humble supplication of them, their friends and relations hardly ever prevails, so that now the people has utterly done expecting it from him.

III. As to burying the dead, if there is to be a funeral sermon in the case, he seldom fails coming, but if the deceased be poor so that [there is] no sermon, it is altogether vanity to expect him.

IV. In relation to the baptizing infants, he very rarely accepts any for surety's but communicants, which (God knows) are too few in number to be burdened with becoming sureties for all the rest and that small number is rather decreased than augmented by a general disgust of our people at the surly, proud, morose and unhappy temper of our minister, & yet he has sometimes accepted without scruple for sureties the basest profligate and notoriously infamous to take that charge on them when that humour is on him. And at other times we are generally obliged to carry our children, some by land and some by water, many miles to other ministers, who never refuse to Baptize them with such sureties as we can provide.

V. Our parishes here differ widely from those in England, where the sound of a bell gives certain notice of the time of divine service, and half an hour or less will suffice to walk: but here we live from the church some fourteen or fifteen miles, so that its hardly possible to congregate by the time used in England, which some of the principal men in our island has very mildly and with great respect laid before our Minister, but he is so far from being prevailed on by it, that since if there be only himself and his man servant, he will begin the service, not granting people time to ride to Church, from such an abject distance, by which means to our great grief we are deprived of the benefit of the service of the Church.

VI. His example seems no more edifying than his behaviour relating to

his office, for he keeps and now lives with him, a convicted transported woman servant by whom it is thought he has one Bastard, & which he keeps in the house with him, and has endeavoured what he can to keep the whore from justice.

Which is what we most humbly offer to your Lordship's consideration, on which alone we depend for relief. But if in any of the recited articles we have gone beyond the bounds of respect and duty by observing what we ought not, we most humbly beseech your Lordship to attribute that and all other faults herein, to the effect of what it really is, pure ignorance, & we humbly beseech your Lordship to look with an auspicious eye on this humble Presentation and supplicative Epistle: which is most humbly directed to your pious Lordship by the inhabitants of Kent Island and members of Christ Church Parish, on said Island, with profound deferance and respect and prayers to Almighty God, to multiply his blessings on your Lordship and your posterity is the hearty desire of

JAMES ERIANY,
JAMES SUDLER,
JOHN GRAINGER,
MARMA. GOODHAND,
Vestry.

WILLIAM ELLIOT,
— CARTER,
JOHN CARTER,
JAMES BENNETT,
CHRI^s GRAINGER,
JOHN WRIGHT, and others,
People.

Mr. WILKINSON to the Bishop of London.

ST. PAUL'S, IN CHESTER RIVER, QUEEN ANN'S COUNTY,

Aug^t 1st, 1726.

MY LORD,

Our Assembly are now in good earnest with us, & have already begun with the dividing of my parish. I moved both Houses to have your Lordship's opinion & consent first. I pleaded my right and property, and when neither of these were regarded, I desired that they would proceed therein after the same manner they are now dividing Parishes in England, but all to no purpose.

It is the opinion of that house (as I'm informed) that the revenues of the Church are so much in the power of the Assembly, that they can lessen them at their own discretion, & according to that opinion they proceeded to cut off one third thereof, & had certainly effected it had they not unwarily brought it in with the Merchants debts and the officers fees, which so nearly concerned some gentlemen in the upper house that the bill was there rejected, we are also told that the Act of Assembly establishing revenues of our Church has not the Royal assent as was always thought hitherto & never disputed till now. Unless therefore, your Lordship will be pleased to interest yourself in our favour & prevail with our Proprietor the Lord Baltimore to repeal the law, The church here must lie under such difficulties as will very much discourage any clergyman for the future to come over, such a check now at this time will very probably discourage such attempts hereafter. I must own that our Parishes are generally too large, but as they go about dividing them, now either the one or both will be insufficient for our support. The price of Tobacco on our shore is generally very low, & if at any time it advances it is not above one year in seven, or rather in nine or ten, & to be sure we are then paid very indifferently. Could I assure myself of any preferment in the country in England of 50 or 60 pounds a year, I would willingly exchange it for this parish I'm now in. I beg your Lordship that however I suffer now, you would be pleased to prevent (if possible) the ruin of this church, which must inevitably follow if these attempts be not discouraged now. I beg your Lordship's blessing, and am

Your Lordship's obedient servt.,
CHR. WILKINSON.

Mr. WILKINSON to the Bishop of London.

QUEEN ANN'S COUNTY, CHESTER RIVER,
Dec^r 4, 1727.

MY LORD,

The division of my parish has passed the lower house of our Assembly, but was rejected in the upper, but for no other occasion that the unequal

division, that was made by the Commissioner. Some of the leading gentlemen assert their right of depriving us of what part of our revenue they please. How our present Governor inclines I know not, for he is very reserved in this & all other affairs. My consent to a division was pressingly urged, but I refused till I had first obtained your Lordship's opinion & approbation, & also till they had provided a law for amending the Quality of tobacco, & engaging themselves to pay us with the best & not such rubbish & trash as usually falls to my share, & which was so far from being a sufficient maintenance for two, that at present was but a scanty maintenance for one Minister. I desire your Lordship would favour me with your opinion relating to the Division which will be debated in the next Assembly, & also how the maintenance for a minister in the new Churches about London is raised, whether from a new fund or out of the revenue of the old Church? Our assembly will probably follow the same method. Our parishes are too large for any one Minister, but the revenue as it is in my parish (for I meddle not with others) is no more than a bare competence.

And now my Lord pardon me if I once more intreat you to hasten the sending over some Ecclesiasticall power & jurisdiction or other, for both Clergy and laity call for it. While we had the very shadow of a jurisdiction it had awful influence over them. Yet that temporal law became in a great measure useless, but now the Church & state are running to confusion & ruin. We are endeavouring to have a meeting of the Clergy, on our shore to persuade (if possible) some of our Brethren to a more regular & becoming conduct, and at the same time to draw up an address to his Majesty on his succession to the Government.

I hope we have none with us but real & hearty friends to the succession as by law established.

I heartily beg your Lordship's prayers & blessings, and am, may it please your Lordship,

Your Lordship's most obdt. servant,

CHR. WILKINSON.



Rev. Mr. EVERSFIELD to the Bishop of London.

July 4th, 1728.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR LORDSHIP,

I being sent last Nov^r by your Lordship as a Missionary to the Province of Maryland in America, and there being no vacancy on the western shore there, his Excellency the Governor was for sending me over the bay to the eastern shore, where I should be devoured by Muquittoes a dreadful kind of insects by day, and by chucks like our bugs in England by night. But it pleased God to order matters otherwise, for the Rev^d M^r. Rainsford happening a little time after to be sent for home, was pleased, upon D^r. Bray's recommendation, to resign me his living. He had effects in these parts to a considerable value which I bought of him, an inventory of which I have sent your Lordship that you may see how justly everything is rated. The reasons I had for so doing is because I have been falsely charged with simony, by M^r. Henderson, your Predecessor's Commissary, for no other reason than my giving him for his effects somewhat more than a common Planter, who allows nothing for the buildings on the premises, neither will give for goods half the value of them, Especially when a man is driven to a pinch as M^r. Rainsford was. I judged their proceedings no rule for another to walk by, & that their taking the advantage of your neighbour's urgent necessities was no argument for my doing the like. M^r. Rainsford assured me that they would not give him within £40 of what his effects were worth, & I told him I would give within £30 (which is £10 more than the planters would give him) and judge myself well off too. This expression came to M^r. Henderson's ear, who immediately accused me of simony and gave out that I had purchased the living, whereof I can assure your Lordship there was no mention made of the living, neither was any such thing by me intended, as M^r. Rainsford to whom I spake the words very well knows. But M^r. Henderson having very grossly abused me in his house a little before, for insisting on a couple of books he promised me, was resolved to be Revenged of me, and made up of the innocent words, before mentioned as a handle to keep me out of the living. He having an acquaintance of his own to put in, & to whom if M^r. Rainsford would have resigned his living M^r. Henderson promised that he would give the same for his effects as I did, but finding that would not do M^r. Henderson

accused M^r. Rainsford's wife as the serpent did Eve, & promised that if she could prevail with her husband to resign his parish to his friend, so as to keep me out, he would lend him £40 & take any of his old books for a debt of eleven pounds he owed him, besides paying him for his effects whatever I was to give. The worthy gentlewoman told him his proposals were very ungenerous, & therefore would not be complied with either by her or her husband. Finding himself every way disappointed, he went to the Governor and lodged an accusation of simony against both M^r. Rainsford & myself, which we have cleared ourselves of by an oath, which has decided the matter, & accordingly the Governor gave me an induction to the parish resigned by the Rev^d M^r. Rainsford as aforesaid, & was very kindly received by the Vestry thereunto belonging, & have, blessed be God, gained the good will of the people, whom I instruct on all occasions in the doctrines of our most holy Religion, & have baptized many of their negroes, whom I intend God willing to catechize every Lord's day at Church, & have exhorted My Parishioners to prepare them for such catechization, a work very much neglected in these parts, and am in hopes of great success therein, if this scandalous accusation of simony which M^r. Henderson buzzes in the ears of every one he meets does not prevent. I beg therefore your Lordship would check his malicious proceedings and exhort him to reconciliation & love, and I doubt not thro' God's assistance of enlarging the pale of the Church and of bringing many souls to Christ, Which shall be the earnest endeavour of,

Your Lordship's most ob^{dt} Servant,

JOHN EVERSFIELD.

Clergy of Maryland to the Society.

24th Nov^r, 1728.

SIR,

We the Clergy of the Province of Maryland finding the Church and ourselves very much distressed by a late Law passed by the Legislature of this Province, a Copy whereof we send inclos'd, do think ourselves in duty bound to implore the Assistance of the Venerable & Honorable Society for Propagation of the Gospel in Foreign Parts, to extricate ourselves out of some very

great difficulties, in which certain Paragraphs of the said Law do involve us, and we make no doubt but that this Venerable and pious Body of Men, who have contributed so much to the happy Settlement of Religion in these distant and desolate parts of the World, will charitably interpose their good offices for our Relief.

Nothing could have moved us to give the Venerable Society any trouble of this nature, but a prospect of desolation to the Church: By this Law, the best Parishes are reduced to a very bare Support, and the smallest must be deserted, unless the Venerable Society will think of it, to administer a share of their diffusive Bounty to this Colony.

The Act of Religion upon the encouragement of which we Voluntarily transported ourselves into this Province, and which we judged very secure, as being established upon the Public faith and honor of the Country, with the Royal Sanction, is by this Act broken in upon, and our Maintainance very much reduced under the Specious pretence of enlarging it. For under the color of advancing the price of Tobacco one fourth part of our income is taken away from us, or else we are obliged to take it at the determinate price which the Assembly has been pleas'd to set upon it, which must certainly be very much to our prejudice, for if Tobacco should rise in price, the People will pay us in money, but if it continues low they will pay 30 pounds of it, instead of the 40 Stipulated by the Act of Religion: and that too so late, that we may reasonably conclude the Market will be over before we can get it, either for sale here or shipping it off for Great Britain, so that let Tobacco rise never so much in its Price, we are sure to receive no benefit by it, and if it continues Low we are certain of losing a fourth part.

This Act also puts the Clergy under the greatest uncertainties, and disadvantages to the time of payment, in another respect: for the People by this Act have till the 10th of April to make their choice whether they will pay us Money or Tobacco; and after that the Sheriff to the last of June, to make up his accounts with us, by which means several of us may happen to serve two or three Years before they can receive any benefits of their labors; for until the year which begins in November is expired, nothing is due; and if the Sheriffs be allowed to keep our Tobacco to the last of June following, the market as above hinted in all probability will be over and the Shipping gone, and the Tobacco must lye on our hands till the next year; when if we cannot sell it in the Country, we must ship it off home, and then be obliged to wait

a whole year more for the returns of it, and how great hardships and difficulties we shall be hereby involv'd in, need not further be explain'd.

This being our Melancholy Case, we humbly presume to implore the concurrence of the Venerable Society, with the Lord Bishop of London, our most Worthy Diocesan, for our relief, being fully satisfied of his Lordship's good inclinations to this Church, and indefatigable industry to promote the welfare of it, by former experience when we were only threat'ned with what is now accomplished, which has encourag'd us to fly to his Lordship a second time, not doubting of his readiness to espouse the cause.

We are with most dutiful respect to the Venerable Society,

Sir,

Your most humble Servants,

JACOB HENDERSON,	CHRIS ^t WILKINSON,
W ^m MACONCHIE,	HEN ^y NICHOLS,
JOHN DONALDSON,	ALEX ^a ADAMS,
PETER TUSTIAN,	DAN ^l MANADIER,
JAMES COX,	JAMES ROBERTSON,
JOHN HUMPHREYS,	THO ^s FLETCHER,
STEP ⁿ WILKINSON,	THO ^s AIREY,
W ^m CAWTHREN,	JAMES MACGILL.

The Clergy &c. to the Bishop of London.

November 24, 1728.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR LORDSHIP,

We the Clergy of the Province of Maryland think ourselves very happy that in all emergencies we have a Diocesan of such wisdom and influence to apply to, and never had we more need of Assistance than at present.

Our establishment which we judged very secure by having the royal assent, is now by Act of Assembly broke in upon, & our maintenance reduced under a pretence of enlarging it, for under colour of advancing the price of tobacco, by restricting our parishioners from making too great quantities of it, they

think it reasonable to take away one fourth part of the forty pounds of tobacco, secured to every clergyman by the Act of Religion, or to pay him at the rate of ten shillings current money for it, which we look upon to be detrimental to us, as either taking away a fourth part of our income or else putting a determinate price upon it, which will set us on a precarious foot: for should tobacco rise in price our parishioners will pay us in money, and should tobacco prove good for little, we'll be sure to have it, though even then we cannot get it till too late, either for sale here, or shipping off for Britain, so that let tobacco rise never so much in its price we are likely to receive but little benefit by it, but if it continue of small value we are sure of losing one fourth part of our income, & if such alterations are allowable, they who have now obliged us to sell our tobacco, at the price they were pleased to put upon it, may by parity of reason & on the same pretence, put a much smaller value upon it hereafter, Which we think is in itself so dangerous to the Church & Religion here that its enough to alarm all who are concerned for it, but further,

To show the unreasonableness of reducing our forty to thirty, or pay us at their pleasure it ought to be considered that the less tobacco is made, by our parishioners, the more they'll raise of other commodity's, of all sorts of grain & cattle, flax, hemp, cotton, hops, &c., of which the clergy are not to have the least share, the forty being given them as a modus for all tenths they could demand.

But further, its very probable that the people here will make as much tobacco under the regulation of this act as they used formerly to make, for they'll occupy the richest & best of their grounds, and give such plants as they are allowed to plant under this act such attendance as will make them equivalent in weight with what they formerly planted. This is as we are informed was experienced in Virginia under the like limitation.

This act also, puts the Clergy under the greatest uncertainty and disadvantage not only as to what they are to be paid in, as t'was before hinted, but also as to the time of payment, for the people by that Act have till the tenth of April to make their choice whether they'll pay in money or tobacco, and afterwards the Sheriff has till the 1st of June to make up his accounts with us, by which several Clergymen may happen to serve near three years before they can receive any benefit of their labour; for till the first year, which commonly begins in November, is expired, there is nothing due, & if the Sheriff be allowed to keep their tobacco till the first of June following, the market in all

probability will be over, and the tobacco lie on their hands till next year, when if they cannot sell it in the country, they may ship it hence, and then be obliged to wait a whole year for the return of it, how great a hardship this is we leave to your Lordship to consider.

In the next place, the fundamental law is in effect broken in upon, and what is now done is but a trial of skill; if they succeed in this, we doubt not but they'll reduce farther and farther till they leave us little or nothing at all. We thought the Royal Assent was a fence they could not break through, and its surprising that this Government should violate a law made in the King's name, and by his authority ratified and confirmed, without his own or successor's consent, if this is passed over we are in a poor condition indeed, & must either submit to the yoke & be miserable, or fly to another City.

Lastly, we thinking ourselves secure of a support so well established, have endeavoured to make some poor settlements for ourselves with an intent to continue for life, & now to take of any part of it is a deplorable disappointment, but we hope his Majesty, whom God long preserve, will not suffer us to be treated after this capricious manner: and what may we not hope for from so gracious a Sovereign. Thus in the shortest and plainest manner we can we have laid before your Lordship our state & condition, and are in great hopes that your Lordship's great wisdom & paternal care, will procure not only a dissent to this Act as far as it affects us, but likewise instructions from his Majesty or the Lord proprietor, to our Government to be entered on the Council records not to pass any Act for the future, either to lessen the Clergy's maintenance or divide their parishes without their consent: for this last is a prospect they are very fond of, & openly avow, that if they dont succeed in the former, they'll make use of the latter, to render our parishes so small as not to be a competency. A project which can proceed from nothing else but that spirit of Libertinism and contempt of those who serve at the altar which is let loose into the world, & alas no part of it more than this.

We presume to enclose a petition to his Majesty the disposal of which we leave entirely to your Lordship's discretion, begging the favour of your Lordship to present it to his Majesty if you think proper and there be occasion otherwise to suppress it.

We have likewise sent an address to the Lord Baltimore, which we are very much ashamed to trouble your Lordship with; & heartily beg pardon for

it, but the importance of the case & the fear and danger of its miscarriage if sent directly to his Lordship put us upon this . . . [illegible] . . . we are

May it please your Lordship,

Your most dutiful humble serv^{ts}

CHRIS. WILKINSON,	JACOB HENDERSON,
HENRY NICHOLS,	JOHN DONALDSON,
ALEX ^r ADAMS,	PETER TUSTIAN,
JAMES ROBERTSON,	JAMES COX,
THOMAS FLETCHER,	JOHN HUMPHREYS,
THOS. AIRY,	STEPHEN WILKINSON,
JAMES MAGGILL,	WILLIAM CAWTHERN.

Petition of the Clergy &c. to the King.

Nov^r 28, 1728.

TO THE KING'S MOST EXCELLENT MAJESTY,

The humble petition of the clergy of the Province of Maryland humbly sheweth,

That your Majesty's most loyal Clergy and dutiful subjects of the Province aforesaid, out of a tender regard for and consideration of the deplorable condition of a people destitute of the means of grace & all the invaluable advantages & blessings that may reasonably be expected from, & do usually attend the solemn & due discharge of that great duty the publick worship of Almighty God, have voluntarily and freely quitted their native country, & transported themselves to this very remote part of your Majesty's dominions, hoping nevertheless that as their principal view was to preach the Gospel, they should live of the Gospel, for which at their transportation they had the legislative security, a poll tax being settled and established here, near thirty years ago, for the maintenance of Ministers which till of late hath always been esteemed inviolable, as being made perpetual by the free Act of the Representatives of this Province, in Assembly convened & formally ratified and confirmed by his late Majesty, King William the Third of blessed memory.

This though a bare competency in the best endowed, and in some Parishes not a sufficient maintenance, Your Majesty's poor supplicants would contentedly acquiesce with, but in a late Act of Assembly of this Province, one fourth of this scanty revenue is taken from us, to the utter ruin of several of your petitioners and their families on pretences too tedious to be inserted here, but such as are equally false and frivolous, as if we may be permitted that honour we doubt not but we shall make appear to your Majesty.

We live, dread Sovereign under the immediate government of the Right Honourable the Lord Baltimore, Lord Proprietor of the Province, but as the supreme decisive power is by express words of his Lordship's charter, reserved to your Majesty, & the right of appeal, together with all other rights & privileges appertaining to English subjects stipulated to us by the same.

Your petitioners considering Your Majesty's princely Zeal for the encouragement of learning & truth, most affectionate tenderness for all the rights & privileges of your subjects, & your most gracious declaration to maintain the Church of England as by law established, most humbly beg leave to implore Your Majesty's royal protection of this distant part of it, which must of course decline if in consequence of the aforesaid Act, the Ministers thereof be so far reduced, as to be obliged to resign their Cures to seek a subsistence elsewhere.

That this may never be the case, but that your Majesty's reign may be long & prosperous, & that our most holy Religion may flourish here & throughout your Majesties other Dominions under it, and under one of your most illustrious & royal line, in all succeeding generations, till time shall be no more, is & shall be the hearty prayer of, may it please your Majesty,

Your Majesty's

Most dutiful &

Loyal subjects,

JACOB HENDERSON,
WILL^m MACONCHIE,
JOHN DONALDSON,
PETER TUSTIAN,
JAMES COX,
JOHN HUMPHREYS,
STEPH. WILKINSON,
WILL CAWTHREN,

CHRIS. WILKINSON,
HENRY NICHOLS,
ALEX. ADAMS,
JAMES ROBERTSON,
DAN MAYNADIER,
THO. FLETCHER,
THO. AIRY,
JAMES MAGGILL.

Mr. WILKINSON to the Bishop of London.

CHESTER RIVER, Dec^r 10th, 1728.

MY LORD,

Our Assembly has at last divided my Parish & taken from me very nigh one half of my revenue. I was always of opinion that I might have enjoyed the whole Revenue during my life, but tis their opinion, & so they declare that as they gave it, they can take it away at their pleasure. By this the Church Revenue is precarious & uncertain, and to let us know that it is so, they have reduced our forty pound poll to thirty, & not only so, but obliged us to take 10s. of our currency, which is 7s. 6d. sterling a hundred, so that should our tobacco at any time advance its price, we can have no advantage from it. We are exposed to some other hardships, which for want of an act of Assembly which I could not procure, I cant so clearly as I ought lay before your Lordship. Our Assembly have for several years past been endeavouring this, but could not never effect it till my Lord Baltimore Brother is now our Governor. These I think are such hardships which if known in England will give but little encouragement to Clergymen, to leave their native country to come into Maryland, & will oblige many of us here either to look out for preferment abroad, or set up manufactory's in our families for our better support. The Clergy have resolved to send some of our Brethren to lay these things before your Lordship & the King & Council, but are obliged to do this privately, for should it be known They will most certainly prevent their coming over, as they have lately done M^r. Colebatch, by a *ne exeat*, whom your Lordship by Dray's [? Bray's] letter had invited to be a suffragan here. The Clergy have solicited me for one, but my years and a winter voyage are my excuse. I cant yet acquaint your Lordship who will come from hence.

I beg your Lordship's blessing & prayers,

& am your Lordship's

humble obedient Serv^t,

CHRIS. WILKINSON.

Mr. HUMPHREYS to the Secretary.

ANNAPOLIS, May 4th, 1729.

REV^d SIR,

The Rev^d M^r. Henderson being under a sad necessity of going to England to endeavour to rescue the Clergy of this Province from the great distress to which we are reduced by a law lately passed by the Governor and Assembly, I make bold by him to pay my most humble respects to that very venerable body.

I am now about to say something in relation to myself, which I am afraid the Venerable Society will disapprove, as savouring of too much levity. I am extremely desirous to return to my old Mission at Chester, being very weary of Maryland, on account of the unreasonable attempts of the people to deprive the Clergy of that support which their fathers with great difficulty obtained, to be settled as an encouragement and maintenance of a ministry in the Province, of which M^r. Henderson can give you a just account.

I am, Reverend Sir,

Your most humble S^r

JOHN HUMPHREYS.

An Act passed in Maryland for reducing the Quantity of Tobacco formerly made there, read 14th July, 1729.

At a Session of Assembly begun and held at the city of Annapolis in Maryland, the third day of Oct. 1728, the following Law (among others) was enacted.

An Act for improving the staple of Tobacco.

WHEREAS it is Evident to this general Assembly that unless some Provision be made for the improvement of the staple of Tobacco, the people of Maryland, whose present dependance is on the produce of that commodity,

must be inevitably reduced to want common necessities, or to fall upon some other ways and means, however difficult to supply themselves.

Be it therefore enacted, by the Hon^{ble} the lord Proprietary, by and with the advice and consent of his Lordship's government, and the upper and lower houses of Assembly and the Authority of the same, that every labouring taxable person and overseer within this Province have liberty to tend seven thousand plants of Tobacco and no more (except as is hereafter excepted) and that all male or female labouring persons, above twelve & under sixteen years of age, have liberty to tend three thousand five hundred plants of Tobacco & no more, upon any plantation or plantations, in any one year during the continuance of this act.

PROVIDED always, that all male persons being housekeepers and planters, and not having any taxable servant or slave, and all widows and all females sole, having land, & being housekeepers, and not having more than one taxable person, shall have liberty to tend for themselves ten thousand plants of tobacco for every Male or female labouring person between twelve and sixteen years of age, to them belonging the liberty of tending on his or her plantation, five thousand plants of tobacco and no more, and for every white woman belonging to such housekeeper five thousand plants and no more, & that no such housekeeper have any allowance for more than two white women, and for the better explaining what sort of labouring taxables and others are intended by this act, to be restrained from making tobacco,

Be it enacted and declared, that no Master of a family keeping an overseer, and having six taxable servants or slaves, that work in tobacco, or any Master of a family keeping no overseer, having six taxable servants or slaves that work in Tobacco, or any servant or slave being a tradesman, who shall at any time between the first day of April and the first day of September, work at his or their trade or trades, upon the Plantation or plantations of his or their Master or Mistress, or shall at any time or times whatsoever, work at such trade or trades upon the Plantation or Plantations of any other person or persons, or any servant or slave who shall be employed as Coachman, Groom, Waiting man, Cook, Dairymaid or in any other domestic office, or service in or about the dwelling house of his or her Master or Mistress, & white women (except as before excepted) shall be allowed to plant any tobacco.

And be it further enacted by the Authority aforesaid, that the Vestry of

every Parish within this Province shall, every year during the continuance of this Act, upon the 15 day of May Yearly (if the same be not Sunday) and if it shall so happen, then the next day after, lay out their respective Parishes into precincts, and appoint two persons in each precinct to examine and enquire of the names & number of the persons hereby allowed to tend tobacco, and the Crops of the several Planters within the said precinct, & the number of Plants growing on any and every Plantation or plantations within the same, and on the 20th day of the month of July Yearly, to begin to cut, or to cause to be cut up and destroyed, all stalks, slips & suckers within such precinct, and to proceed thereon as there shall be occasion.

Which Persons so appointed are hereby enjoined carefully to review and examine all the several fields and places wherein Tobacco shall be tended, within their several precincts, two respective times at the least, after the plants thereon growing have been by them counted, and as often hereafter as they shall judge necessary, in order to discover whether any slips or suckers shall be turned out or tended from the stalks whence any Tobacco plant hath been before out, and shall take an oath (or an affirmation if a Quaker) before some Justice of the Peace of the County wherein they reside, which oath (or affirmation if a Quaker) the said Justice is hereby empowered to administer in the words following, Viz: :

I, A. B., do swear (or affirm) that I will carefully, diligently and truly examine & enquire of the names & numbers of all persons allowed to tend tobacco within my precinct, and truly and faithfully number and count the plants growing or that have been tended on every plantation within the same, & faithfully and diligently will review & examine all the severall fields and places where all such tobacco plants are tended, & cut up & destroy or cause to be cut up & destroyed, all stalks from which any tobacco shall be cut or taken, & all slips and suckers growing from or out of the same, above the height of nine inches from the ground, & which I shall find standing or growing in any of the fields or places aforesaid, according to the directions of the Act of Assembly for improving the staple of tobacco.

And that I will duly execute all the powers and authorities given by the said Act, and make a just and true report of my proceeding therein, without favour, affection or partiality. And that I will make information of all such persons who shall be guilty of any breach of the said Act, in any matter or thing in which a counter is required, to examine & enquire to some Justice of

the peace for the County wherein the offence shall be committed, within one month after it shall come to my knowledge. So HELP ME GOD.

And if any person appointed by the vestry of any parish to view, examine and number tobacco plants, & to cut up & destroy tobacco stalks, slips and suckers, in pursuance of this Act, shall refuse to accept the said office & take the oath before mentioned (or affirmation if a Quaker) every person so refusing shall forfeit and pay one thousand pounds of tobacco or five pounds Current Money. And upon such refusal, or the disability of any such person or persons, the vestry of the said parish shall meet and appoint one other fit person in the room of him refusing and disabled, & so from time to time, as often as such person shall refuse or become incapable, Nominate and appoint one other in his stead, & every person so nominated and appointed, that shall refuse to accept the said office & take the oath (or affirmation) as aforesaid shall forfeit and pay the like quantity of one thousand pounds of tobacco or five pounds current money.

And in case the Vestry men of any parish shall fail to meet on the 15th day of May, or the next day after if the 15th day of May aforesaid happen on a Sunday, or shall refuse to do his duty at such vestry, so that there shall not be a sufficient number to hold a Vestry, every such vestryman so failing to meet or refusing to act in such vestry shall forfeit and pay the sum of Twenty pounds current money. And such Vestry are hereby required to meet for the purpose aforesaid within 7 days after such failure. And every Vestryman who shall then fail to meet or shall refuse to do his duty at such vestry, so that no Vestry is or can be held, shall forfeit and pay the sum of thirty pounds current Money. And to the end of the duty of numbering & examining Tobacco plants and the other services herein before mentioned, may not be neglected for want of due notice to the persons appointed to perform the same,

Be it enacted by the authority aforesaid, that the Clerk of the Vestry of each parish shall, immediately after the nomination of the persons appointed for examining and numbering the plants of tobacco, deliver to each and every of them a Copy of the order for their appointment, and shall then demand whether they will accept the said office; and if any of the persons so appointed shall refuse, the Clerk of the Vestry shall give immediate notice thereof to one of the Churchwardens of the said parish, who is hereby directed & required forthwith to call a Vestry to meet on the next Monday following such notice. Such vestry so called are hereby directed to

nominate and appoint other fit persons in the room of such as shall refuse the office of counting and examining the tobacco plants as aforesaid. And if any of the Persons nominated as aforesaid, shall afterwards become disabled before he hath performed the duty hereby required of him, the person joined with him for that precinct, shall give notice of such disability to one of the Church Wardens of the Parish within two days after the same shall come to his knowledge. And every neglect therein shall be deemed and taken, and be liable to a like penalty, as a refusal to accept the office of numbering and examining tobacco plants; and if upon the refusal or disability of any of the persons appointed in any Parish to examine and number tobacco plants as aforesaid, the Vestry of such Parish shall fail to meet & appoint others in the room of those so refusing or disabled, according to the directions herein beforementioned, every vestryman who shall then fail to meet, or refuse to do his duty at such meeting, so as no vestry can be held, shall forfeit and pay the sum of thirty pounds current money, and every Churchwarden, or clerk of the vestry neglecting or refusing to do what they are required by this act to do and perform, shall for every such refusal or neglect forfeit the sum of twenty pounds current money.

PROVIDED NEVERTHELESS, that if any of the persons appointed to put this act in execution, be hindered by sickness or other extraordinary Accident which he could not prevent, & make the same appear to the county Court, that he shall not be liable to any of the penalties contained in this Act.

AND FOR THE ENCOURAGEMENT of the persons nominated and appointed as aforesaid for examining and numbering the plants of Tobacco, & for cutting up and destroying tobacco stalks, slips and suckers in pursuance of this Act,

Be it enacted by the authority aforesaid, that there shall be levied on the taxable persons in each county, during the continuance of this Act, five pounds of tobacco for every seven thousand plants, & proportionably for a lesser or greater Quantity, which shall be tended & left standing within the said County, to be distributed to the respective persons appointed by this Act, to view and number the plants of tobacco, in proportion to the number of plants view'd and numbered by them in their respective precincts: Which said levy of five pounds of tobacco the Court of each County within this province is hereby required and empowered to assess on the taxable inhabitants, & the Sheriff or other collector of the county levy, to pay the several persons to whom the same shall be due, in the Parish wherein they respectively reside, unless such

person shall be content to take the same in some other Parish within the County. And for every hundred tobacco stalks which shall have any sucker or slip growing thereon of the height of nine inches from the ground, which such person or persons shall so cut up and destroy, there shall be paid to him or them by the owner of such tobacco stalks, or his or her overseer, twenty pounds tobacco, and so proportionably for a lesser Quantity, to be recovered with costs before any Justice of the Peace of the County wherein the said tobacco stalks shall be so cut up.

And for the better direction of the persons appointed for numbering the plants of tobacco, be it enacted by the Authority aforesaid, that the two persons nominated and sworn, in each precinct, shall jointly repair to the several plantations, and there take the number of tobacco plants by counting the several plants contained in every respective piece of tobacco ground, in the best manner and by such Methods and rules as in their judgment may best discover the true quantity, having regard to regular and irregular pieces of tobacco ground.

And if at any time hereafter, any more plants of tobacco than are hereby allowed shall, by the persons appointed to view and number the same as aforesaid, be found planted or tended on any plantation or plantations whatsoever, the owner or overseer of such plantation shall immediately, in the presence of the person or persons appointed to examine and number the same, cut up or cause to be cut up and destroyed, so many plants as shall exceed the number hereinbefore allowed, in such place or places of the said tobacco grounds as the said owner or overseer shall think fit. And in case the owner or overseer of any such plantation shall refuse so to do, the said persons so appointed to examine and number as aforesaid, be & are hereby impowered and required to cut up or cause the same to be cut up and destroyed, & shall have and receive as a reward for so doing, twenty pounds of tobacco for every hundred plants of tobacco that shall be so cut up and destroyed by them, to be paid by the owner or overseers of such plantation where such offence shall be committed, & upon due proof thereof made by the oaths of the persons appointed as aforesaid, shall and may be recovered before any Justice of the peace of the County where such offence shall be committed. And the persons so to be appointed to examine and number as aforesaid, are hereby required to make a true report of their proceedings and number of plants on each plantation in their respective precincts, to the Clerk of the Court for that county

wherein the said Precincts respectively lie, on or before the 10th day of August yearly.

And be it farther enacted by the authority aforesaid, that each person so appointed and sworn to examine & number tobacco plants and to cut up and destroy stalks, slips, and suckers as aforesaid, failing to make such report of their proceedings as aforesaid, shall forfeit and pay two thousand pounds of tobacco for every such offence. And if the said persons so appointed to examine and number and to cut up and destroy stalks, slips, & suckers as aforesaid, shall (knowingly) allow any person whatsoever, to plant or tend, on his or her plantation, any more plants of Tobacco than are herein and hereby before allowed, or to tend any seconds, slips or suckers, each person so offending shall forfeit and pay two thousand pounds of tobacco for every such offence.

And be it farther Enacted by the Authority aforesaid, & it is hereby enacted, that the clerk of every county court shall (without fee or reward) fairly transcribe all such reports as shall be returned to him by the persons appointed in pursuance of this act for numbernng of plants of tobacco, & shall set up the same in the court house of the said County at the two next succeeding Courts after such return, so as the same may be made three days at least before the court day, & shall also file and keep the original reports in his office, & where it shall so happen that any Parish shall lie in two counties, In such case a return shall be made of the number of Plantations and Plants in each County, to the clerk of the County wherein such plantations shall lie, to be transcribed and set up and filed by the Clerk of such county, in manner aforesaid, & the Clerk of any county failing to do his duty herein shall forfeit and pay one thousand pounds of tobacco.

Provided always that where any plantation shall be in two parishes, the tobacco plants tended thereon shall be accounted or taken to be within that Parish or Precinct where the servants or slaves employed do reside, or the quarter for them is situated, and the persons appointed within that precinct where such quarter stands, and no other, shall view, examine, count, and make return of the tobacco plants tended on such Plantation accordingly.

Be it enacted by the authority aforesaid, that all masters of families and housekeepers, and all overseers of distant plantations, shall give in to the constables appointed to take the list of taxables yearly, when they give in an account of their taxables, a true account of the names of every body above

twelve & under sixteen years of age for whom any benefit of tending tobacco is allowed by this Act, and shall so distinguish, in his or her list of taxables, which of the persons therein mentioned are allowed to tend tobacco as aforesaid. And every Master of a family, housekeeper, or Overseer failing so to do, shall forfeit and pay one thousand pounds of tobacco for each person. And if any person shall list or enter with the said constable, any person under sixteen years of age for a taxable, or that is under twelve years of age, to be above that age or a laborer in his or her Crop, who is not hereby allowed to tend tobacco, in either case the Person so offending shall forfeit and pay one thousand pounds of tobacco for every such Person so falsely entered or listed. And every Constable who shall be hereafter appointed to take the list of taxables, is hereby directed and required to take and make separate lists of the names of all such persons above twelve & under sixteen years of age, & shall return such lists, in the same manner as the list of taxables are returnable, to the clerk of each respective county court, at or before the 15th day of May, yearly, during the continuance of this act; and shall make such distinction in the list of taxables by him returned of the persons not prohibited by this act to tend tobacco.

And be it farther enacted, by the authority aforesaid, that each person to be appointed in pursuance of this act to examine and number plants as aforesaid, who shall plant and tend more tobacco, plants, or any Plantation or Plantations to him belonging than is herein before allowed, shall, for every such offence, forfeit and pay one thousand pounds of Tobacco for every person above twelve years of age on his plantation that shall be employed in making tobacco. And if any Master, Mistress, or overseer, shall refuse to give a just and true account, or shall deliver a false account of the names of the several Persons by this Act allowed to tend tobacco on their said plantation or plantations, & to shew all the tobacco planted thereon, or remaining in any tobacco beds or plant patches to the Persons appointed to view the same, every Master, Mistress, or Overseer so refusing or giving a false account, shall forfeit and Pay one thousand pounds of tobacco for every person above twelve years of age employed in making tobacco on any such plantation that year.

And be it farther enacted, by the authority aforesaid, that where any suit shall be brought for the penalties in this Act contained; for entering the listing any person under 16 years of age a taxable, or that is under 12 years, to

be above that age, the age of the person so listed shall be proved and determined by the Parish register, or by the order of the Court in case the age of such Person hath been formerly judged there, or by the inspection of the court upon the trial, and not otherwise. And be it farther enacted, by the authority aforesaid, that no person or persons whatsoever shall transfer or make over to any other Person or Persons any tobacco plants which he, she, or they shall have growing on his, her, or their plantation or plantations above the quantity or quantities allowed by this act to be tended or shall be allowed to tend, for any labouring taxable or worker in tobacco, any number of tobacco plants whatsoever in any other Precinct than where such taxable or worker in tobacco was listed.

And be it further enacted, that all penalties and forfeitures in this Act shall be applied to the uses and recovered in the manner following (that is to say),

The moiety of all the penalties to him or them that will prosecute or sue for the same, and the other moiety to defray the county charge where the offence shall be committed. And that all penalties not exceeding Four hundred pounds of Tobacco, shall be heard, tried, and determined by a justice of the peace, as in case of small debts. And that all penalties and forfeitures exceeding four hundred pounds of tobacco shall be recoverable in the respective County Courts where the offence shall be committed, by action of Debt, Bill, Plaint, or information, Presentment or indictment, wherein no essoin, protection, or wager of law shall be allowed.

And be it farther enacted, that the Magistrates of the county Courts shall give in charge to the several grand Juries to inquire into the behaviour of all persons appointed to put this act in execution, and the Court may, upon any presentment by the Grand Jury, if they think fit, oblige the Party presented to answer such presentment without any formal indictment, and that if, upon confession or verdict, the party shall be convict, or that if the Party shall be convict in any Action, Bill, Plaint, Information or indictment, the Court shall proceed to Judgment, which Judgment shall be final, and no writ of error or appeal allowed therein, nor any advantage taken or allowed for any defect or want of an indictment, or any other form in the proceedings, any law, usage, or Custom to the contrary, notwithstanding.

And for the ease of the people in paying and discharging all publick and county levies, parochal and other charges assessed and levied on the people, and lawyers fees, payable in Tobacco during the continuance of this Act, and

of all tobacco debts that shall be due and owing on the 10th day of August next ensuing for any debt contracted before the end of this Session,

Be it enacted, that all persons being indebted as aforesaid, for public and county levies, parochial & other charges assessed and levied on the people (except accidental charges to be allowed during the continuance and effect of this act, wherein care may and ought to be taken at the same time the allowance shall be made) and lawyers fees, may pay the whole or any part thereof at ten shillings current money per Cent., and so in proportion, at or before the 10th day of April yearly during the continuance of this act, or three parts thereof in tobacco, in specie in full discharge and satisfaction of the whole at the choice of the debtor. And that all persons being indicted in tobacco to any of the inhabitants of this Province, at or upon the 10th day of August next ensuing, for any debt contracted before the end of this Session of Assembly, and which shall not be payable till some time afterward, it shall and may be lawful for the Debtors in all such cases, during the continuance of this Act, to pay three fourths of such tobacco in lieu of the whole.

And be it enacted that the several Sheriffs shall and may, by virtue of this Act, have, until the last day of June yearly, during the continuance and effect of this Act, to return the several lists of officers, lawyers fees, and other public and County allowances and other tobacco demands, and to make their accounts thereof. And that the several Sheriffs returning the said lists and making up the said accounts, at or before the last day of June yearly as aforesaid, shall be deemed as full a compliance with their duty in that particular, as if the said returns had been made & accounts made up by the 10th day of May, any law & usage, or custom to the contrary notwithstanding.

And let it be further enacted that all persons paying money in discharge of tobacco, or three fourths of their tobacco debts in specie as aforesaid, shall be fully exonerated and acquitted from the whole by virtue of this act.

And be it enacted that all debtors tendering money, or three fourths in tobacco according to the directions of this act, shall have the same benefit or advantage as in the case of a tender of the whole in specie. PROVIDED ALWAYS, and it is the true intent and meaning of this act, that no deduction or allowance shall be made for any of the aforementioned tobacco debts that are due and payable, and shall be paid out of the present Crop now made, but that all such debts shall be and remain under the same circumstances as they would have been had this act never been made.

THIS ACT to continue to the last day of May which shall be in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and thirty-two. [Dissented from.]

Mr. HENDERSON to the Secretary.

LONDON, Sept^r 18th, 1729.

REVND DOCTOR,

The Clergy of Maryland's letter of November last to the Hon^{ble} Society has, I am informed, been read & considered, since which the clergy have sent me here to appear for them and to solicit their cause, which occasions me to give this trouble, humbly imploring the Venerable Society's advice & assistance.

Their letter sets forth the great hardships the late Act of Assembly has brought upon them; it has indeed broke through the most secure Settlement in America, a constitution consulted and effected not only by the Governor & assembly in Maryland, but by persons of the greatest power & station then in England, as appears by the records of Council in the reigns of King William and Queen Anne, both of blessed memory, Copies whereof I have ready to produce when the Venerable Society shall think fit to peruse them.

The case at large I have by the advice of our R^t Rev^d Diocesan drawn up in a petition to his most Excellent Majesty, of which I am very desirous to have the Venerable Society's approbation, and am in great hopes by his and their favour and influence to have a ready way to justice, so that our constitution may be restored to us again.

But should it please God otherwise to order it, then I humbly implore the Venerable Society that out of their tender concern for a distressed Clergy that as opportunity offers, they would be pleased to employ such of them as have a good character in their Missions in those provinces they have the care of, and that in the mean time they would be pleased to reserve such vacancies as they now have till this affair is determined, which I hope will soon be.

I farther humbly propose to the Venerable Society's consideration whether they will be pleased to signify their resolution in this point to the Lord pro-

prietor, to be by him communicated to the Governor & Assembly there. And whether they will think such people should be by them applied to hereafter, worthy of their care and assistance, who have destroyed their own happy settlement. At the desire of the Rev^d Mr. Humphrey's of Annapolis I had the records of that city search'd to know what estate Colonel Nicholson had there, & I find that he had four lots, which are now two small houses; they lie on the water the most commodious of any in the whole city for trade, he had also given him by act of Assembly which still subsists, a piece of ground for a vineyard, which lies on the river Severn, in the bounds of the city, which has since been taken up and built upon.

In short both the lots and the vineyard have pretenders to them, as the Venerable Society will see by the copies of Record I have to lay before them. I have not at present farther to add, but that I am with the greatest submission to the Hon^{ble} Society,

Rev^d Docter,

Your's &c., &c.,

JACOB HENDERSON.

Mr. HENDERSON to the Secretary.

LONDON, Nov^r 21th, 1729.

REVEREND DOCTER,

It is with great concern that I am obliged to make this application to the Hon^{ble} Society, but I hope that the extraordinary nature of the occasion will excuse me.

I have been delayed beyond my expectation by reason of the Lord Baltimore, our Proprietaries long absence. Several of the bills of exchange I brought with me are protested, my tobacco is not all sold, but what is has produced a very poor price.

These things have made the expense of prosecuting my petition before the Lords of his majesty's most Hon^{ble} Privy Council, in their committee for plantation affairs to whom it is referred, too great a burthen for me. I humbly therefore, implore the Honourable Society, that they would be pleased,

out of their pious concern for the Established Religion in Maryland, to defray the expense of Councillor at Law, solicitor & clerks of the Council, and whatever it amounts to, I shall use my endeavours with the Clergy, and question not to prevail on them to refund in a reasonable time the Hon^{ble} Society with great gratitude and alacrity.

Rev^d Doctor,

Yours obediently,

JACOB HENDERSON.

Lord BALTIMORE'S Letter to the Clergy.

LONDON, Jan^y 30th, 17th.

REVEREND GENTLEMEN,

I thank you for your ~~affectionate~~ Letter of the 24th Nov^r, 1728, which has been safely transmitted to my hands. The Grievances therein by you set forth, the consideration of which had not taken up so long time but my having been abroad.

'Tis a sensible satisfaction the Confidence you are pleased to express you have in my maintaining the just rights of the established Church, which you may rest assured on all events shall meet with my protection; and I have from time to time given all instances that have occurred of my sincere attachment thereto, In returns for which I have hitherto met with acknowledgments worthy of so good a body.

As the Protestant Religion is the Basis and Foundation of Our happy constitution, the Regulation on which all our Felicity depends, Be well assured nothing shall be wanting in me to show my utmost Love and Regard in the Propagation thereof, & I shall suffer no Innovations to be made on the just Profit accruing to the said Province of Maryland. I make no doubt but you will on all occasions instil into the minds of the People the necessity of a good Understanding betwixt them and the Governour. I am, Reverend Gentlemen, with all good wishes attending you,

Yours,

BALTEMORE.

*Statements of the Rev. THOMAS FLETCHER and the
Rev. JAMES ROBERTSON.*

On March the 8th, 1729, M^r. Stoughtone meeting with me in Stepney Parish in Somerset County, I taxed him of an advantage he had taken of me at the house of a certain Tho^r Holbrook, in the aforesaid County, saying there that if a man had murdered his father and committed incest with his Mother and Sister, if a man was poor I would take his part, avouching it to be his belief. At several times also he passed scandalous reflections on the whole body of the Clergy of Maryland, saying they were a scandal to the aforesaid province. And on March the 5th, as aforesaid, challenged me, and afterwards further abused me by striking me.

THO^s FLETCHER.

May 22, 1730.

Sometime last March Col^l Elzey, of Somerset County, being dangerously sick, sent for me. Upon my coming to him he was desirous to receive the Sacrament, in order to which I proposed the necessity of a reconciliation between him and M^r. T. Stoughton, his Son in Law, which he told me he was willing to, and desired M^r. Stoughton might come to see him. Some few days after, viz., the 11th of April, I went to see Col^l Elzey, where M^r. Stoughton happened to be, and after some conversation with Col^l Elzey, and praying for him in the presence of the said M^r. Will^m Stoughton (who seemed very much affected and serious all the while), the said M^r. W^m Stoughton asked me to walk out with him a little, pretending (as I imagined) friendship or some private business, and before he had well wiped the tears of his eyes he fell a beating and abusing me till (before I was aware of his design) he blinded me of one eye and bruised my face to that degree that the marks of his blows remained black and blue for 3 Weeks, and presently after his using me so barbarously, he was so far from expressing any sorrow for it, that he said If I was the Archbishop of Canterbury he would serve me the same sauce, and that he would beat all the Clergy in the Country One after another if they durst presume to talk any thing of him.

JAMES ROBERTSON.

Case of the Clergy on Tobacco Act.

The Case of the Clergy of Maryland under an Act of Assembly made in that province the 21st day of May, 1730, Entitled an Act for improving the Staple of Tobacco, &c.

The Grievances the Clergy of s^d Province laboured under by a former Act bearing the aforesaid title, made the 3rd day of October, 1728, were represented by Petition to His Majesty in Council, who graciously referred them to the Right honorable the Lords of his Majesty's most Honorable Privy Council in their Committee for Plantation affairs to consider and make report thereof to His Majesty. Whilst this was transacting The Lord Proprietor arrived from beyond Seas, and applied to the Right Honorable the Lords of the Committee to have the matter referred to him, which they refused, but were pleased to suspend the hearing until the Lord Proprietor should consider the matter and have time to do therein what seemed to him to be just.

The Lord Proprietor, on a full hearing, thought fit to dissent to said Act made in 1728, and to some other Acts that he thought were grievous to the Clergy of his Province aforesaid. He thought fit (to prevent the like Encroachments for the future) to send Instructions to his Deputy in Maryland not to consent to any act to alter, lessen, or diminish the provision made for the Clergy by an Act entitled an Act for Establishm^t of religious worship in that Province, and he wrote a Letter to the Clergy of said Province, wherein he assures them (on all events) of his Protection, and that he will suffer no Innovation on their rights. This letter was Communicated to the Governor and Some honorable Members of his Lordship's Council of State.

It might have been expected that after such a Declaration from his Lordship (as in said letter contained), and such Instructions to the Governor, that there would have been no further attempts made to deprive the Clergy of any part of their Subsistence.

But so it has happened that by the fore recited Act of the 21st May, 1730, the people have liberty to discharge & pay the Clergy one fourth part of their forty p^r Poll in grain, viz^t, wheat at 42 pounds of Tobacco p^r bushel, Barley at

24 p^r bushel, Indian Corn at 20 p^r bushel, & Oats at 20 p^r Bushel. This the Clergy look upon to be little better than Cutting so much entirely off, for,

1st. This is an alteration of the act of religion which was so maturely and solemnly made & Confirmed by the Sovereign Dominion, upon the faith whereof the Clergy were induced to settle in that province, and which his Lordship the Right honorable the Lord Proprietor has often declared he will inviolably maintain and support.

2^d. It is depriving the Clergy of their Property without their own Consent, which they humbly Conceive to be against the nature & Constitution of any English Government.

3^d. The Equivalent pretended to be given by this Act bears no proportion to the Commodity deducted; the people may pay which of the sorts of grain they please; Oats will (in all probability) be their choice, because they are of least value and easily raised; there is no use made of them but to feed horses, so that they must lay by and rott, and the other Commodities are rated too dear by one half, nor is there any market for them Except by chance they can barter them away for rum, which they must sell out again for money or Tobacco, and how unbecoming a Clergyman will it appear to see a rum Store at every parsonage for the Encouragement of Sotts and Drunkards; and there is no other visible way to bring these Commodities to answer a 4th part of the Clergy's Subsistence.

If the Commodities are an Equivalent why are they imposed on the Clergy; may not the people as well retail them out as they? If they are not an Equivalent, why should the Clergy be defrauded? It is too apparent from these transactions that there is a design to root the Protestant Clergy out of the Province.

4th. Physicians, Tradesmen, & Servants are under no obligation to take part of their debts or wages in these commodities to support these & other Expences was hard enough on the Clergy before, but now it will be Intolerable.

5th. Supposing the Inhabitants of Maryland restricted to plant Six thousand Plants for each Taxable and three thousand for half Taxables, and the Clergy still allowed their just maintenance at the Established rate of 40 p^r Poll, the Planters half Taxables pay nothing to the Parish minister, & yet make Tobacco, upon an estimate it will appear that the Clergy have not a twentieth part of the Tobacco that is made, and nothing at all out of any other

Commodity when their fellow Subjects in England pay the 10th of every thing that is raised and produced for the maintenance of the Clergy of the same Church of which they are members.

6th. The method taken to establish & confirm the deduction from the Clergy is worthy to be considered a Tacking it to the Lord Proprietor's Revenue Act, abtending of two bills together, the one to secure the other from a dissent; how Honorable this would be to his Lordship, to take (as it were) a bribe for oppressing the Clergy, to submit to the violation of his Instructions and to falsifie his repeated promises on account of a Sham pretended Interest, when his quit rents and alienations fines will far surmount it, is humbly submitted to the Judgment of all Disinterested persons.

Hard & unhappy is the Clergy's Fate if they must be put to the trouble & Expence of an annual Solicitation for the preservation of their just rights; or if such laws should be dissented to yearly, and yearly renewed, that would be Equivalent to a standing Act to a perpetual Law to oppress them. It is to be hoped the Right Honorable the Lord Proprietary will put an end to these grievances.

The Honorable the upper & lower houses of Assembly having addressed his Lordship to confirm the Act, it is necessary to subjoin their reasons with proper answers.

The first reason is that the welfare of the Province depends upon the Act, to which it is answered that the welfare of the Province can never consist in depriving the Clergy of their just rights, and doing what in its consequence must Subvert the Established religion. There is not the least necessity to include the Clergy in such a law, for (as was before observed) they will not have a Twentieth part of that one Commodity. The people know better than the Clergy what to make of the commodities that are given as an Equivalent. That is their right and the Tobacco is the Clergy's. So that it is so far from being unjust to the people to compel them to pay the Clergy their dues, that it is manifestly unjust if they do not.

But to obviate all Objections of this kind, the Clergy made an offer to compound with their Parishioners for money at a reasonable rate, which would answer the People's end in leaving them at liberty to make the best of the quantity they are Restrained to, but this would not do, nothing but a deduction of a 4th part & what they pleased to give in lieu for it, would satisfy them.

2^{ndly}. They say that the Grain to be paid the Clergy will be worth as much money as the Tobacco allowed for it would purchase without such a Law; and the restraint upon the planters will render the Tobacco to be paid the Clergy of more value than the whole without such a restraint would be.

To which it is answered that if the people pay in Oats they will not produce any money at all, if in the other Commodities they'll produce nothing but rum, which must be sold out again as before observed; as to the rise of the Price of Tobacco on the restraint, it is uncertain, since the demands for that commodity depends on foreign markets, which are not confined in their supply to Maryland.

3^d. They say they have affixed the prices of grain the very same that Creditors are obliged to receive it at, when they Execute their Debtors for Tobacco which they cannot pay.

What a strange reason is this; to put the Clergy's allowance upon the same foot with desperate debts, it is a sufficient answer to this, to read the Act for relief of poor Debtors, fol: 234 of the body of Laws of the Province.

In short these reasons give just Cause of Suspicion that they have greatly injured the Clergy, or why should they suspect they should Complain. They well know the Clergy can make nothing of those commodities, except some New Market is opened for them, and then the trouble and expense of carrying them about from place to place to dispose of them will be intolerable. They cannot depend upon them for the support of their Families; for 'tis uncertain which of the Commodities they'l pay in; neither must the provision for the families be put off to the 15th day of March, to which time the planters are indulged by the Act to pay them; for then they might be disappointed, since it is of the people's pleasure whether they'l pay in Tobacco or Grain.

Maryland ss.

A Visitation of the Clergy' of the Eastern Shore in Christ Church, on Kent Island, was begun and opened with Divine Service & Sermon preached by the Reverend Mr. John Lang, on Wednesday, the 24th day of June, 1730.

The Sermon ended, the Commissary made the following speech to the Clergy:

REV^d BROTHEREN,

The Right Reverend the Lord Bishop of London having constituted me his Commissary for this province, I thought it necessary for 2 reasons to convene you as soon as possibly I could. FIRST, that I may examine your several Credentials, in order to know upon what foundation you exercise the ministerial Function in this province; SECONDLY, To bespeak your assistance & concurrence; in order to promote a strict and orderly administration of Divine Offices and a suitable and exemplary life & conversation in the Clergy.

HIS LORDSHIP, in his directions to the Clergy of his Diocese in the year 1724, has laid down the public duties & offices incumbent on the Clergy to perform in the Church, and also those that are of a more private nature, obligatory on the Conscience as ministers of Christ. He hath pressed both these kinds of duties with great force and Eloquence, So that I need say no more but recommend them to your serious perusal & attention.

But there are besides some other particulars that should be the subject of our Resolutions at this time, matters of the greatest consequence to our holy Religion.

There is first The Christian Faith itself, the ground work of our holy religion. Some men that are risen up among us are, as I'm informed, Endeavouring to undermine and subvert the very foundation of it, arguing and pleading against the truth of it, & against all Revelation whatever.

It is our duty therefore to study this point industriously, that we may be ready always to give an answer to every man that asketh us a reason of the hope that is in us with meekness and fear.

I^{mo}. Without a Divine Revelation it is not possible to establish & preserve

a settled Rule of Morality, if men were left to their own weak and imperfect reasonings without any Guide or Rule of duty what Confusion would they introduce. Their Lusts & Passions would darken and corrupt their Judgments, and drive them into all manner of licentiousness; this would certainly be the case as to the greater part of mankind, who have neither leisure nor abilities to Collect the measure and motives of their actions, and should persons of greater & deeper penetration provide them with a full System of Morality, what must give that the authority of a Rule for general observance. Men are not so ready to submit their Judgments to others; the Weaker the more opinionated & tenacious. But a Divine Revelation carries with it an authority adequate to the ends of Morality, the Authority of God, whom every Creature is bound to obey under the apprehensions of Reward or Punishment. This is agreeable to the nature of a rational Creature, and from hence flows the greatest pleasure Imaginable, when we Reflect on our morality, good actions, and the greatest horror when on our evil ones. Now if the happiness of mankind in their intercourse and dealings with each other depends upon the observance of the Rules of Morality, & there cannot be a rule of Morality without a divine Revelation, it is not to be supposed that God in his Wisdom & goodness would leave us without such a one.

2^d. Without a divine Revelation there could not be a public Regular worship of the Divine Majesty. If men believe there is a God and his moral perfection of goodness that makes him Concerned for the happiness of his Creatures they must think themselves obliged out of a sense of duty & gratitude to pay him all the homage & subjection they are able. They will allow their happiness to depend on his favor, & their misery to proceed from his displeasure. This will lead them into some kind of worship of the deity into some applications to procure his favour, or avert his anger. And it is as reasonable that men united into societies & Communities should endeavour to secure the blessings of God upon and protection to them as that each individual should do so, hence arises the necessity of public Worship, a joint acknowledgment of or supplication for public blessings. Now what Security can any one give to the Society of which he is a member; That he will be faithful to the Trust and confidence reposed in him, but his appearance to worship God. This is a declaration that he owns and fears God, but if he does not Worship him, tis to be supposed he does not own & Consequently not to be restrained by the awe or fear of him; So that public worship is the result

of reason, and that without wth Society cannot well subsist; for which reason there never was any nation or people tho' ever so barbarous but what had some worship or other.

Let us suppose (now) Revelation laid aside and who must fix the Rule for public worship? what must be the Rates and observances of it? by what authority must a submission to it be established if every man is left to himself? Independently of others what agreement can be expected! or should they agree (which is not to be expected) what assurance of its being acceptable? in short we could expect nothing but Confusion & distraction but suppose a Divine Revelation and all is secure the Rites and observances will be settled & uniform & the authority Competent and sufficient to enforce a submission to it.

Without Morality and Religion, Society could not well subsist, and I think it apparent that without a divine Revelation we could have no fixed Rule for either God in his great wisdom it seems has so closely Joined his own religion and Worship with the best Interests of men, which is no small argument for the divine origin^l of it.

These two points (my Brethren) well studied and Explained will show the necessity of a Divine Revelation, will clear the way to the Christian Dispensation & lead men to consider the Evidences & proofs for it.

The proofs are of 2 kinds Internal and external; by the first are meant such as arise from the nature of the precepts, articles & ordinances of the Gospel Revelation. By the other are meant such as assert the Testimony or attestation of God to it. Both these are necessary, for if the matter revealed be contrary to any former admitted Truth, no outward proofs whatever can convince us that God did reveal it. Or if the matter be such as is not inconsistent with any prior acknowledged Truth yet there must be external or positive proofs that God did reveal it.

The Internal proofs Consist in this, that the precepts, articles & ordinances of the Gospel are noways inconsistent or contradictory to any former Truth, natural, moral or revealed. The adversaries of our holy Religion have never yet been able to prove that any of them are, And until they do we are secure in this point, however it is necessary that we be prepared to show that the matters contained in the Gospel are noways unfit or unworthy of God to reveal.

The external Consists in the Testimony or attestation of God to this Revelation. Jesus Christ the first Teacher of the Christian Doctrine was more than once acknowledged by a Voice from Heaven; he was foretold & his

Doctrine prefigured by a prior viz^t, the Jewish Revelation ; and to Confirm the whole he wrought such miracles as could proceed from no less than the finger of God, works such as none could do except God was with him. This was a clear proof of his divine Mission & consequently of his Doctrine. I presume that no Deist or Libertine would deny this if they had with their Eyes seen the Miracles that heard his Apostles wrought, the truth of the matters of fact is what they dispute, whether such miracles as are recorded were wrought or not? this I think is clearly demonstrated by 4 Rules laid down by the Author of the short and easy method with the Deists, that any fact that has all the marks contained in those Rules cannot possibly be false. I wish that book was reprinted here For the conviction of the Deists and libertines amongst us.

I do not intend from what is said, to prescribe to you the method you are to take in the study of this great & necessary point, but rather to communicate to you my own, and to exite you either by this or some other to make yourselves Masters of the Contraversy, that you may be able to convince those bold Gainsayers.

There are also other Gainsayers that we have to deal with: some who corrupt, others who maintain the Faith in contention & ungodliness; we should be prepared to Deal with all these, to defend the Faith once Delivered to the Saints, every Article, and every Truth of the Gospel with meekness & fear. There is no truth in itself considered, but what is of great Concern, tho' in respect of others that are more Essential & material it may seem but small. In order to this we should diligently Search the Scriptures. Truth must be thoroughly understood before we can be thoroughly qualified to encounter Falsehood, and then we are to let Slip no opportunity; no capacity is to lie by unemployed, but we are to exert all our power to defend and propogate our Holy Religion. This leads me to another point we are Zealously to attend to: 2^{ndly}, The Instruction of the Ignorant in the Faith and practice of Christianity. This is the proper work of our calling, to explain the Doctrine, recommend the Duties, and Inforce the motives of the Gospel; the other is but Accidental, occasioned by the poison dispersed by wicked men. But then that requires medicine, an antidote sufficient to expel it.

The ignorant are not yet tainted. Great Diligence in Explaining and enforcing the truths of the Gospel, may in a great measure prevent it; for Christianity is so rational a scheme that it cannot fail of success where the Subject wrought upon is not miserably corrupted.

The method of such Instruction Consists in catechising and Preaching ; Points so well handled by the Right Rev^d Prelate before mentioned that there is no necessity to say any more about them.

There is one thing (tho') in which we must confess we are blame worthy, both Pastors and People, in that greater care is not taken about the Instruction of the Negroes. It cannot be denied but that they are part of our cure, & that we shall be accountable to God for the discharge of our duty to them. But on the other Side it cannot be expected that we should become School-masters and Tutors to them any more than to others. There is in that an impossibility. It would be inconsistent with several branches of the ministerial Function ; yet we may seriously & passionately exhort Masters & Mistresses to teach and instruct them or procure others to do it for them. We may with Truth & Justice represent to them, that this is their duty, that their own Salvation depends upon the faithful discharge of it ; and we on our part may settle Fixt times for their public Instruction in the Church. The afternoons of every Sunday through the Summer, & those days at the time of our great Festivals that are indulged them from their labour, would in my opinion be proper Seasons for that purpose. I hope (my Brethren) that you will Concur with me in this pious undertaking, that is likely to bring so much honor to God, and to be the happy means of the Salvation of the Souls of those poor Creatures.

I cannot give myself leave to think that any Master or mistress will be so barbarous as not to engage in this laudable design, especially if they seriously peruse the Lord Bishop of London's letter to them, Exhorting them to encourage and promote the instruction of their Negroes in the Christian faith. In what a clear light and how Pathetically has his Lordship pressed this upon their Consciences ? And we should, in Imitatⁿ of him, do all in our power to accomplish it.

3^{rdly}. Another particular that we should resolve upon, is to promote & establish family worship in our several parishes. This is a Duty that every Christian family owes to God out of a Sense of their Dependance upon him for all blessings earthly & heavenly, daily to acknowledge & make their devout Applications to him. The neglect of it is robbing him of one main part of the worship that is due to him. It is a symbolizing with Atheists, Deists, and Libertines, in laying aside all sense of God & religion in their Families ; The consequences whereof are very dreadful and shocking. What

can be expected from Children & Servants brought up in such Families, but settled, rooted habits of Impiety & Wickedness. These they will in all probability carry into the world with them, and so become bad Christians, bad subjects, bad husbands, bad talkers, bad masters, & the worst of members in the Commonwealth.

On the other hand, the good examples of parents and Masters will in all probability make such impressions on their children and Servants as will excite them to an Imitation of their practice, and so influence them to become good & useful in every Station of life.

4^{thly}. Another particular expected from us is a strict attention to our conduct & behaviour. Many eyes are upon us, all our Words and actions narrowly scann'd & made the subject of all most every conversation. Great circumspection is therefore necessary to the succesful discharge of our Ministry.

It must be confessed that the people have as good a right to a pious & holy example, as they have to instruction or the administration of other divine Offices. St. Paul makes it equally the characteristic of a good Pastor to take heed to himself as unto the flock; he exhorts Timothy to be an example unto the believers in Words, in Conversation, in Charity, in purity and Titles, to be a pattern of good Works; 'tis plain, then, from these places, that a Minister of the Gospel should take care to lead a holy life. He is obliged to do this, not only upon account of his own Salvation, but in order to discharge his Ministry with Success & advantage.

What can a Minister of the Gospel expect but the utmost contempt, whose life is a flat of contradiction to his doctrine? His life and example should give authority to what he says; but when he represents the dangerous condition of impenitent Sinners in lively colors, and yet lives himself in the habitual practice of those sins to which, with his own mouth, he owns damnation to be due, must not this give great offence to good men, and to a degree harden bad ones?

In short, the good or bad Lives of the Clergy are of the utmost consequence to religion. Nothing frightens men more from a serious Application to it than the difficulty they apprehend to be in it. After some few attempts made in vain, they are apt to conclude it an impossible task, and are hereby tempted either to neglect it wholly, or to fly to those who will cut them out an easier way to heaven? Can it be expected that a Minister who leads a

bad life will harden & confirm people in this opinion? On the other hand, a good Minister shews by his life the Unreasonableness of such proceedings; he gives a sensible demonstration how falsely they urge the impossibility of being good, & by the conformity of his own life to his Doctrine (who is one of like passions with them), let them see that the fault is in themselves, & that there is no difficulty in Religion but what they may overcome by the grace of God and the use of the means of grace, with that industry and application of mind which a business of such moment requires.

It is Pretended that the immoral and scandalous lives of some of the Clergy is the Cause of the great contempt of and Disaffection to them that is to be prevailed in this province. It is notorious that grievous stories are handed about of some of them, which, if true, It is no wonder if People are disaffected to such; But that the Innocent should suffer for the Guilty is highly unreasonable, & can proceed from nothing but gross ignorance or Infidelity. However (my Bretheren) I hope you will concur with me in all proper methods either to reclaim such as are immoral & scandalous, or to remove them, that all grounds of offence may be taken away, That the ministry be not blamed; that the name of God be not blasphemed among the Gentiles through such.

LASTLY. A strict adherence as far as may be to the Cannons, Rules, & orders of our Church should be resolved upon, for besides that it is our duty that we are under solemn ties & obligat^{on} to it, the contrary practice brings a great scandal on our church and Tends much to weaken & undermine its happy constitution; For if we are negligent in the observation of them, what can be concluded from thence by both our friends and Enemies, but that we little regard them and think them useless and vain and then that such should be injoined by the Church must certainly be a great reflection either on her or us.

And now (my brethren) having spoken to some particulars that I thought necessary & agreeable to the condition & circumstances of our holy religion here among us, permit me to conclude with a Serious exhortation to weigh and consider these things with great earnestness & sincerity. The honor of our Lord Jesus Christ whose ministers we are & the precious souls of Men, for whose salvation he suffered and died, are deeply concerned in the discharge of our ministry should be [? we] prove unfaithful & instead of promoting those blessed ends, defeat & obstruct them by either negligence or a vicious example; how great shall be our condemnation.

We should then possess ourselves with an earnest & great desire to promote the honor of God and Salvation of mankind & labour diligently in the pursuit under accomplishment of that glorious design.

We should give attendance to reading, to Exhortation, to Doctrine, meditate upon these things, give ourselves wholly to them that our profiting may appear unto all, that when the Chief Shepherd shall appear, we may receive a Crown of glory that fadeth not away.

The same day the Commissary went to the house of M^r. John Carter one of his Lordship's (the Lord Proprietarie's) Justices of the peace & then & there before the said Justice in presence of several of the Clergy Took the several Oaths To the Government, and the Oath of Office In the 127th Canon & afterwards adjourned to next day eleven O'Clock.

THURSDAY June 25th.—Divine service celebrated, the Commissary proceeded to peruse & examine severally The Clergys Letters of orders, Lycenses and other Credentials.

SOMERSET COUNTY.

The Rev^d M^r. Tho^s Fletcher, Rector of All Hallows, did not appear or send any excuse.

The Rev^d M^r. James Robertson, Rector of Coventry Parish, appeared & produced his Priests orders and Licence for Virginia and had testimonials from thence.

Somerset Parish vacant.

The Rev^d M^r. James Adams, Rector of Stepney Parish, sent his excuse by M^r. Robertson that he was sick and could not attend.

DORCHESTER COUNTY.

The Rev^d M^r. Tho^s Thompson, Rector of Dorchester Parish, appeared & produced his Letters of orders & lycence for this Province.

The Rev^d M^r. Tho^s Airey, Rector of Great Choptanck Parish, appeared and produced his Letters of orders and Licence for this Province.

S^t. Mary white Chapel vacant.

TALBOT COUNTY.

The Rev^d M^r. Daniel Manadier, Rector of S^t. Peter's Church, appeared & produced his Letters of orders and Lycense for this province.

The Reverend Mr. Henry Nichols, Rector of St. Michael's Parish, appeared and produced, &c.

QUEEN ANN'S COUNTY.

The Rev^d Mr. Thomas Philips, Rector of Christ's Church on Kent Island, appeared, produced his letters of orders and a lychense for the Leward Islands dated 10th of May, 1707; a Licence for Virginia dated 16th of August, 1715, but had no Testimonials from Virginia.

The Rev^d Mr. James Cox, Rector of St. Paul's parish, produced a Lychense from your Lordship but no letters of orders.

The Rev^d Mr. Jno Lang, Rector of St. Luke's Parish, appeared and produced letters of orders and licence for this Province.

KENT COUNTY.

The Reverend Mr. Alex^r Williamson, Rector of Saint Paul's Parish, appeared and produced Letters of orders and licence for this Province.

The Rev^d Mr. Richard Sewel, Rector of Shrewsbury, produced letters of orders and licence for this province.

CECIL COUNTY.

The Rev^d Mr. John Urmston, Rector of St. Stephen's Parish, appeared, & produced Letters of orders and Licence for North Carolina but no testimonials from thence.

This Mr. Urmston was Drunk at the Visitation and the next day had an admonition from the Commissary.

The Rev^d Mr. Geo. Ross, Rector of St. Mary Ann's Parish, did not appear or send any excuse.

The examination of credentials being furnished [?] finished] the Commissary enjoined the Clergy to a strict observance of the 59th Canon, and pressed upon them the obligations they were under of taking all care of the Instruction of the Negroes and so the visitation ended.

Maryland ss.

A visitation of the Clergy of the Western shore in St. Barnabas Church in Prince George's County was begun, &c.; opened with divine service and Sermon preached by the Rev^d M^r. Will^m Maconchie on Wednesday the 15th day of July, 1730.

Sermon ended, the Commissary repeated the same speech to them, that he did to the Clergy of the Eastern Shore, and afterwards examined Letters of orders, Licences and other Credentials, viz^t.

BALTIMORE COUNTY.

The Rev^d M^r. Stephen Wilkinson, rector of Saint George's Parish, appeared & produced Letters of Orders and Licence for this Province.

The Rev^d M^r. Cawthren, Rector of St. John's parish, did the same.

The Rev^d M^r. Will^m Tebbs, Rector of St. Paul's Parish, did not appear or send any excuse.

ANN ARUNDEL COUNTY.

The Rev^d M^r. James Magill, rector of Queen Caroline Parish, appeared and produced letters of orders and licence for this province.

The Rev^d Theodore Edgar, Rector of Westminster parish, appeared but produced no Letters of orders or licence; he pretended he had them at home.

This Gentleman was lately Drove out of Virginia for Drunkenness and was inducted into a Parish here soon after by our Governor.

The Rev^d M^r. John Humphreys, Rector of St. John's in the City of Annapolis did not appear or send any excuse.

The Rev^d M^r. Jos^b Colebatch, rector of Allhollows parish, appeared and produced letters of orders and licence for this province.

The Reverend M^r. Peter Tustian, rector of St. James' parish, appeared, and produced letters of orders for South Carolina, was recommended to the

Governor of this province by the late Lord Bishop of London and has an Ample Testimonial from Commissary Bull.

CALVERT COUNTY.

The Rev^d M^r. James Williamson, rector of all Saints' parish, appeared & produced letters of orders & licence for this Province.

The Rev^d M^r. Jonathan Cay, rector of Christ Church, appeared and produced letters of orders & licence for this Province.

PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY.

The Reverend M^r. Geo. Murdock, rector of Prince George's Parish, did not appear or send any excuse.

The Rev^d M^r. Jacob Henderson, of Queen Ann's parish. The Rev^d M^r. Jno. Fraser, Rector of St. John's Parish, produced his Letters of orders and Licence.

The Rev^d M^r. Jno. Eversfield, Rector of St. Paul's parish, appeared & produced his Letters of orders and Licence for this Province.

CHARLES COUNTY.

The Rev^d M^r. W^m. Machonchie, Rector of Port tobacco and Durham Parishes, appeared, produced Letters of orders & licence for this province.

The Rev^d M^r. Hugh Jones, Rector of William & Mary Parishes, produced his letters of orders & licence for Virginia but brought an ample Testimonial from the Inhabitants of St. Stephen's Parish in King and Queen County in Virginia where he was incumbent for some time.

ST. MARY'S COUNTY.

The Rev^d M^r. John Donaldson, rector of King and Queen Parish, appeared and produced his Letters of orders and Lycences for this Province.

The Rev^d M^r. Rob^t Scott, Rector of All faith Parish, did not appear but sent his Letters of orders & licence, and excuse that he was sick.

The Rev^d M^r. Leigh Massey, Rector of St. Mary's Parish, did not appear, but sent his excuse that he was indisposed.

THE EXAMINATION of Credentials thus finished, the Commissary enjoined the Clergy to a strict observance of the 59th Canon, and pressed upon them the obligation they were under of taking all care of the Instruction of the Negroes and so the visitation ended.

Address of the Clergy to the Lord Bishop of London.

MARYLAND, July 16th, 1730.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR LORDSHIP,

We your Lordship's Clergy of this Province, should be very much wanting in our duty did we neglect to send your Lordship our most grateful acknowledgm^t for your kind and zealous applications in behalf of our Establishment and your happy success therein, communicated to us by the Rev^d M^r. Henderson whom we cheerfully receive as your Lordship's Commissary, not questioning but from his known zeal for our holy religion, and assiduity upon all emergencies he will discharge the trust reposed in him by your Lordship with such prudence on the one hand, as well as intrepidity on the other, as will advance the honor and glory of Almighty God and strengthen the interest of the Church of England among us. But we are heartily sorry that we have any occasion to lament the barbarous usage he has met with here. But too generally for his laudable endeavors to restore to us our legal maintenance and secure us from any future encroachments which, tho' we are fully satisfied nothing has been wanting in him to effect, yet he has not been able to do, for no sooner was the dissent to the law we complained of to your Lordship, published here, but an assembly was called, and another Act passed which gives liberty to our parishioners to pay us one 4th of our incomes in grain rated most extravagantly, not often vendible tho' in this hot and moist climate, soon perishable, but what most alarms us, may it please your Lordship, is, that we have just cause to fear that this innovation is only designed as a precedent for future assemblies to go through with what we know they would be at, Wherefore, as we have once more applied to the Lord Proprietary for his dissent, we beg your Lordship will pardon our presumption, if we intreat your Lordship

once again to give weight to our weak efforts, without which we apprehend all that we can do, will be ineffectual; we are,

May it please your Lordship,

Your Lordship's most obedient and
most dutiful Sons and Servants,

JOHN LANG,	JOS ⁿ COLBATCH,
JA ^s ROBERTSON,	WILL ^m MACONCHIE,
RICH ^d SEWELL,	JONATHAN CAY,
ALEX ^s WILLIAMSON,	JAMES WILLIAMSON,
ALEX ^s ADAMS,	JOHN DONALDSON,
JOHN HUMPHREYS,	JOHN EVERSFIELD,
JAMES MACGILL,	PETER TUSTIAN,
STEPHEN WILKINSON,	ESDRAS T. EDGARD,
WILLIAM CAWTHREN,	HENRY NICHOLS,
THO ^s THOMPSON,	DAN ^l MAYNADIER,
JAMES COX,	THOMAS AIREY,
THO ^s FLETCHER,	JOHN URMSTON.

Rev. JACOB HENDERSON to the Bishop.

PATUXENT, IN MARYLAND, Aug. 12th, 1730.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR LORDSHIP,

I arrived here about the Middle of April last after a fine pleasant passage, but the reception I had was not so pleasant. Some of our leading libertines had spirited up the people against me, Inasmuch that they threatened to mob me. Indeed one Ruffian meeting me at a Gentleman's house struck me twice after w^{ch} I must confess I struck him. Another no less than a justice of the peace and an assembly man beat two Clergymen, Mr. Robertson and Mr. Fletcher. The Clergy in a body complained of the latter to the Governor but it does not appear that he takes any notice of it, nay he was so far from resenting that barbarous usage, that in two or 3 days after he threatened in public Company That he would kick me tho' he has always spoke fair to my

face. Such hard usage have the Clergy here for defending the patrimony of the Church against the Encroachment of the people!

This Gentleman, a young convert from the Church of Rome, has, I do verily think, an implacable aversion to the Protestant Clergy. If he had not he would never violate his instructions and prostitute the proprietor's honor, wth, by his promise to the Clergy, is solemnly engaged not to suffer any innovation on their rights.

There has been a meeting of the Clergy of Eastern Shore, and also of the Western, an account whereof I shall transmit to your Lordship by the very next good opportunity.

I beg your Lordship would please to hasten an Exemption of the Commission from his Majesty. I dare not . . . [torn out] . . . any acts of Jurisdiction till that arrive being . . . [torn out] . . . our Provincial Court would prohibit me . . . [torn out] . . . serves chiefly to accompany the Clergy's Letter . . . [torn out] . . . under the present act of Assembly wth they . . . [torn out] . . . almost as grievous to them as the last. I hope your Lordship, out of the paternal care for the Church of God in this place, will apply to the Lord Baltimore to put an end to these Grievances; we are most gratefully sensible of your last endeavours. I am most deeply affected with your Lordship's particular Favour to me, and am with greatest deference,

Your Lordship's most

Dutiful and Humble Servant,

JACOB HENDERSON.

Mr. HENDERSON to the Secretary.

(EXTRACT.)

MARYLAND, 27th October, 1730.

REV^d SIR,

* * * The Clergy have desired me to present their grateful thanks for the loan of the thirty pounds to me; they will return it next Summer; they have been at a great expence and their commodity, Tobacco is very low else they would have remitted it this year. I desire, Rev^d Doctor, that you

would present their and my humble duty to the Hon'ble Society and believe that I am,

Your most obedient humble Servant,
JACOB HENDERSON.

Rev. JACOB HENDERSON'S Letter to the Bishop.

MARYLAND, March 13th, 1731 & 2.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR LORDSHIP,

M^r. Paris has sent me your Lordship's Commission, proved before the Lord Mayor and Court of Aldermen, and attested by them under the Seal of the City, but it is the Commission from his late Majesty King George the first, w^{ch} I apprehend determined at his Majestie's death and so of no use to me.

M^r. Rogers says your Lordship told him that the board of Trade had sent your Commission from his present Majesty (which I take to be the one you now act by) to the several Colonies. I have asked both the late and present Governor who both say they have not received any. We have not had any ships lost these 2 years past, so that if it was sent, I admire what is become of it; I suspect indeed from the dislike the late Governor always showed to it, that he may have secreted it, but it is but suspicion.

M^r. Urmston whom I acquainted your Lordship I had deprived, was consulting to prosecute me, for want of the royal Commission and had retained (as I was informed) Some Lawyers for that purpose but in the mean time in a drunken fit (as was supposed for there was no body in the house with him) fell into the Fire and was burnt to death.

M^r. Tibbs against whom there is now a complaint lodged and which I transmitted to your Lordship continues as bad as ever and proclaims defiance against any power whatever. He is rich and will make strong opposition. I dare not venture to call him to account for want of the Royal Commission.

One M^r. Wright a Clergyman who was sent to Virginia about 3 years ago run away from thence with another man's wife with whom he had lived some time Scandalously; the woman was rescued and taken from him; he has been wandering about in this Province these three months, but I hope I have pre-

vailed on the present Governor not to induct him into a small parish the only vacant one in the province.

In short (my good Lord) I am quite tired out with the opposition I meet with and nothing to support me, so that I humbly beg your Lordship will be pleased either to send your Commission under the broad seal (for nothing else I am advised will justify me or Excuse me for having any further concern with it).

No doubt the board of Trade upon your Lordship's application would send another, if so, I desire it may be sent to me, for I suspect foul play. This is a proprietary Government which does not relish cordially any powers from the Crown. I beg your Lordship's prayers for

my very good Lord,

Your most dutiful,

and obed^t humble Serv^t,

JACOB HENDERSON.

Proceedings on the Commissarie's Visitation.

*A Visitation at Oxford, on the Eastern Shore of Maryland, June 16th, 1731,
at w^{ch} were present*

The Rev^d Mess^{rs}.

The Commissary.

Tho^s Fletcher, Rector of All Hollows, Somerset County.

William Wye, Rector of Somerset, Ditto.

Tho^s Thompson, R. of Dorchester pth, Dorch. County.

Thomas Airey, R. of Great Choptauk, Ditto.

Thomas Dell, R. of St. Mary white Chappel, Ditto.

Dan Manadier, Rector of St. Peter's, Talbot County.

Henry Nichols, R. of St. Michael's, Ditto.

James Cox, Rector of St. Paul's, Queen Ann County.

Thomas Philips, Rector of Christ Church in Kent Island, Ditto.

Alex^r Williamson, Rector of St. Paul's, Kent County.

George Ross, Rector of St. Mary Ann, Cecil C^y.

The Commissary spoke to the Clergy to the following purpose, that, among other things at the last visitation, in his Speech he had pressed upon them in particular an Earnest endeavour to have the Negroes of their Several parishes instructed, in order to be baptized and partake of the great benefits of the Christian religion; that this was not only their duties as Ministers of Christ, but was also in a particular manner charged upon them by the Right Rev^d the Lord Bishop of London, & that he expected an Account what success their endeavours had. He then related the method he had taken in his own parish, viz^t, that he had last Summer read prayers in the Afternoons Every Sunday, & Catechized Negroes and others that came, and spent near half an hour in explaining; that he confesses such numbers did not attend as he expected, but that did not discourage him; he would persist in sowing the good seed, and doubted not but it would take root in some or other; that, supposing what he did should fail of Success (which he hoped was not to be supposed), that it would excuse him when he was called upon to give an Account of his Stewardship, & entitle him, nevertheless, to the reward of his Labours, as it will do to all others that are zealous in this good work.

He then desired of each an account of what was done towards the Instruction of the Negroes.

Mr. Fletcher said his parishioners were generally so brutish that they would not suffer their Negroes to be instructed, catechized, or baptized. The Commissary, upon this, advised him to take care that this be true, for that the account would go to the Lord Bishop of London, and it would be of Ill consequence to misrepresent them; but he persisted in it that he had often preached up the necessity of instructing them, that he had conversed frequently with them about it, and warned them of the danger of neglecting it, but all to no purpose, that their answer was, that it made them the greater Rogues & villians, & they would not suffer it.

Mr. Wye says his people are better disposed; they are generally willing to have their Negroes instructed and baptized; that there are in his parish a dozen Negroes, Communicants; that he is but of short standing in the parish, but resolves to pursue that good work.

Mr. Thompson says he has taken pains to convince the people of the necessity of having their Negroes instructed, but tho' he has baptized several, yet he finds them generally very remiss.

M^r. Airey finds the people of his parish very inclinable to have their Negro's instructed, but they will not be at the pains and trouble of it.

M^r. Dell lately come, but says he resolves to attend to that good work.

M^r. Manadier has often pressed on his people their obligation to instruct their Negroes, but yet they are very remiss and neglectful.

M^r. Nichols says his custom has always been to catechise the Youth of this parish on all holidays. He has from the Pulpit and in conversation been Instant with his Parishioners to instruct their Negroes, in order to their being made Christians; but that the best answer he can get, even from the best people, is that they are very sorry, and Lament that they cannot comply with it.

M^r. Cox has urged the necessity of instructing the negroes, but tho' his Parishioners allow it to be a good thing, yet they generally Excuse themselves as thinking it to be impracticable.

M^r. Williamson says that, by the Pains he has taken in instructing the negroes of his parish, he finds them to be of 3 sorts, the first whereof are so grossly Ignorant, that there is no possibility of Instructing them in the principles of Christianity; the 2^d are capable of instruction, and learn the answers to the questions of the church Catechism, but are so egregiously wicked as to render Baptism ineffectual. The 3^d are duly qualified, and of Exemplary Lives, some of whom are baptised, & others are soon to be Baptized, so that he has good hopes to succeed with the latter sort, Especially their Masters and Mistresses being assistant.

M^r. Ross says that his parish is a new settlement; the people are poor, and have but few negroes; that some of them are in bad hands, where he has no influence; that those whose masters are communicants frequent the Church, but are not yet thoroughly instructed, towards w^{ch} he resolves to contribute his endeavours, and to baptize them when their knowledge and conversation shall encourage him.

The first day being spent in the foregoing particulars, the Commissary adjourned to the next day at 11 o'Clock, to St. Peter's Church, when & where there is to be a sermon preached by the Rev^d M^r. Fletcher, previous notice given to the people.

Thursday, 17th of June, divine service & Sermon ended, the Commissary appointed the meeting of the Clergy next year, to be on the 2nd Wednesday in the month of May, at St. Peter's Church aforesaid, & M^r. Alex^r Williamson to preach the Sermon. And so ended this visitation.

*A Visitation at Annapolis, on the Western Shore of Maryland, July 21,
1731, at w^{ch} were present:*

The Rev^d Mess^{rs}.

The Commissary.

William Maconchie, Rector of Port Tobacco, Cha^s County.

Hugh Jones, Rector of W^m & Mary, Ditto.

Geo. Murdock, Rector of K. George's, Ditto.

Jno. Fraser, Rector of St. John's, Prince George's Co^y.

Jno. Eversfield, Rector of St. Paul's, Ditto.

Jno. Humphreys, Rector of St. Ann's, Annapolis.

Peter Tustian, Rector St. Jas., Ann Arundel Co^y.

Theodore Edzar, Rector of Westm^t, Ditto.

Ja^s Magill, Rector of Queen Caroline, Ditto.

Stepⁿ Wilkinson, Rector of St. George's, Baltimore Co^y.

W^m Cawthren, Rector of St. John's, Ditto.

The Commissary spoke to the Clergy to the same purpose as he did to those of the Eastern shore, & desired of each of them an acc^t of what was done tow^{ds} the instruction of the Negroes.

M^r. Maconchie happened to be called away, w^{ch} occasioned the want of his Answer.

M^r. Jones says that he has constantly exam^d the Negroe's of his Parish in & expounded to them the Church Catechism upon Sundays, after the 2nd Lesson, so that he has sev^l Classes of them that can give as good an account of their Faith as the white youth whom he Catechizes all holidays; that he has baptized all the Adult negroes after they have been instructed in their duty, & the Negro Infants when brought to Church, taking Christian Negroe's for Sureties; & that he publishes in Church & Marries such as apply to him for that purpose, with consent of the Masters or Owners.

M^r. Fraser says that he has catechized them duly upon Sundays after divine Service; the Adults are baptized publickly when perfect in their Catechism, their masters & mistresses being sureties or witnesses. The Infants are likewise baptized, their masters & mistresses being sureties. He visits them in their sickness, & marries them when called upon.

M^r. Eversfield says he baptizes them all in general (Infants); that he has

often Exhorted his Parishioners to bring them to Church to be catechized, but they refuse ; but when it shall please God to move their hearts to a compliance, he shall be very ready to do his part.

M^r. Murdock says that he has taken what care he could ; that he has frequently exhorted his parishioners in publick and private to instruct their Children, Servants, and Slaves ; that he catechizes constantly from Spring to fall, but complains that people are very remiss ; as to his own slaves, they are all baptized, one is learning to read, another frequents the holy Sacrament ; and he hopes to have better success in time.

M^r. Tustian says that he had ever since he came into the Parish a large number of Christian negroes, several whereof were communicants, and their Children all baptized, but by changing their Master are removed out of his parish. He continues to baptize a great many Children, and some few Adults ; he has distributed small Catechisms, Primmers, &c, for the help of their Masters and Mistresses, and hopes, with God's permission, in another year to render more satisfactory accounts.

M^r. Magill says he has taken all opportunities (Since his Induction, which is but one year) to persuade his parishioners to prepare their Children, white and black, for being catechized ; that he catechizes and explains every Sunday, after second lesson in the morning ; he hopes for good success in time, to which he shall not be wanting to contribute his endeavours.

M^r. Wilkinson says he has lately baptized four adult negroes, who could read and answer pertinently, also four negro Children ; he hopes for success, to which he will use his endeavours.

M^r. Cawthren says he has prevailed with some Masters to instruct their negroes, but hopes in a short time to be able to give an account more comfortable to himself and satisfactory to his Superiors.

Then the Commissary adjourned till next day at S^t. Ann's Church.

Thursday, July 22nd, the Clergy met in S^t. Ann's Church. An excellent Sermon was preached by the Reverend M^r. Tustian, the Governor, upper and lower houses of assembly, and a large congregation being present. Divine Service and Sermon ended, the Commissary discharged the Clergy from further attendance, and so the visitation ended.

*The Rev. Commissary HENDERSON to the Lord Bishop
of London.*

PATUXENT IN MARYLAND, Aug^t 7th, 1731.

MAY IT PLEASE Y^r LORDSHIP,

Since mine of the 12th of August and 27th of Octob^r last I have not been honoured wth one line from y^r Lordship, w^{ch} is Indeed a great discouragement. In both I pressed for an Exemplification of the royal Commission, more particularly in the last. I acquainted y^r Lordship that the vestry of St. Stephen's in Cecil County was forming Complaints ag^t their Rector, M^r. Urmston, since w^{ch} they have Complained of him, and I have heard them. He had been admonished before, and since that had been often drunk on Sundays, when he should have performed divine Service, and Constantly on other days, and in his drunkenness guilty of many brutal actions. The people had Intirely left the Church, and some were for turning Papists and others Presbyterians, so that there was an absolute necessity to remove him. I have deprived him, but am apprehensive he will sue me for damages, for the Exercise of an authority for w^{ch} there is no proper Evidence. I have ordered a merch^t to wait on y^r Lordship wth this, and I beg you would be pleased to direct him what office to go to for an attested Copy of the royal Commission, it may be here time enough to prevent giveing me Trouble, if y^r Lordship will be pleased to hasten it and see that it be properly attested.

There are two or three clergymen more that give great offence, but no Complaints as yet made ag^t them. I doe really think if I had the royal Commission I could soon alter things greatly to the advantage of our holy religion.

The Hon^{ble} Society have sent us a great many of y^r Lordship's first and Second pastoral Letters. I divided them Equally among the Clergy, to be lent out as they saw occasion in their parishes. I am now Informed that they have already done a great deal of service, confirmed many that were wavering, and stopped the mouths of our bold Libertines, of w^{ch} there are not a few here.

The Lord Proprietor has Confirmed the Act that y^e Clergy last Com-
plained of, tho' very grievous to them, in direct Contradiction to his promise
to y^e Lordship, as well as his own letter to y^e Clergy. The Act is to last but
one year longer, and should it be renewed, I should be glad to know whether
your Lordship Judges it proper that I should go home to Complain of it.

By the next good opportunity I shall Send the particulars of this year's
visitations. I am,

My very good Lord,

Y^r Lordship's most obed^t

Humble Serv^t,

JACOB HENDERSON.

Churchward' & Vestrymen of S^t. Paul's to M^r. Com^r
HENDERSON.

REV^d SIR,

We the Church wardens & vestry of Saint Paul's parish in Baltemore
County do Complain that our Rector, the Rev^d M^r. Tibbs, besides living out
of his Parish, that he has by his Own Authority without our consent set up
his Clerk, a person convicted of felony, to read the service not excepting the
absolution; that he comes very seldom to Church himself, that the Sacrament
of the Lord's supper is seldom administered, that he refuses the burial of his
Parishioners, Particularly M^r. W^m Buckner & many more, that he refuses the
visiting the sick, as for example John Hillon in his Sickness & to administer
the Sacrament to him, and also to Coll. Tho^s Hammond &c., that notwithstanding
by reason of his great age and weakness he cannot perform the Duties of
his Station, yet he will not make any allowance to any of his neighboring
Clergy to assist him, and that by reason of the premises the parishioners of
the parish aforesaid are much injured as well as prejudiced by the said Tibbs's
evil Example in many instances, particularly in swearing and Drunkenness
and many more Instances, all which we are ready to make appear and there-

fore desire you will please to appoint a time to hear them, that Justice may be done and the Public Worship of God Duly celebrated in the Parish.

We are, reverend Sir,

Your most obed^t, Serv^t,

Saint Paul's Parish, Sept^r 10th, 1731.

THO ^s SHEREDINE,	} <i>Vestrymen.</i>
JOHN MOALE,	
GEO. BUCHANAN,	
T. TODEL,	
THO ^s HINES,	

JOHN EAGLESTON, *Church Warden.*

To the Rev^d M^r. Jacob Henderson, Commissary.

Rev. JACOB HENDERSON'S Letter to the Bishop.

PATUXENT, October 11th, 1731.

MAY IT PLEASE Y^r LORDSHIP,

Since my last of the 7th of Aug^t little has happened save the last letter of which that on tother side is a Copy from the vestry of S^t Paul's in Baltimore County Complaining of their Rector, the Rev^d M^r. W^m Tibbs, who has been their Minister near forty years, and in the whole course of that time, has not only as I'm informed most miserably neglected his cure but lived to Scandal to the holy Function in Drunkenness, cursing & swearing, Fighting and quarrelling. I think myself obliged to hear them, but am in great confusion for want of the exemplification of the Royal Commission.

M^r. Urmston did not think fit to appeal, but has been with most of our Lawyers for advice. He is very much encouraged by the Gov^r & the Papists as I'm credibly informed, and incited by them either to sue me for damages or the Sheriff, if he refuses to pay him the 40 per pole. What may be the issue I cannot say, but upon the Petition of the vestry, he has inducted another into the Parish, the Rev^d M^r. Hugh Jones, and has (as I'm told) changed the form of Induction, but how I have not yet particularly learned; as soon as I can

your Lordship shall have an account. In the mean time I most humbly beg your Lordship to hasten the Exemplification.

I am, my very good Lord,

Your Lordship's most Obed^t

Humble Servant,

JACOB HENDERSON.

Rev. JACOB HENDERSON'S Letter to the Bishop.

MARYLAND, Oct^r 29th, 1731.

MY VERY GOOD LORD,

I have already by this opportunity writt at large, Since which one Allen has applied to me for a recommendation to your Lordship for holy orders and brought me some letters from some of our Clergy to desire it of me. I have refused him for these reasons that he has been yet for 7 months in the Province which is not sufficient to prove his character, that he pretends he passed his courses at the College of Edinburgh, but in conversation I found he knew nothing even of the principles of Logick nor can he even read Greek, and has but a poor smattering of the Latin Tongue and appears to have no stock of Prudence.

We have suffered very much by such already and therefore hope your Lordship will not send him to us. I should think, my very good lord, that it would be highly reasonable you should entertain none from hence without my recommendation, if you should it would be a very great grief to

My very good Lord,

your mo: obed^t hum: Serv^t,

JACOB HENDERSON.

JACOB HENDERSON'S Letter to the Bishop.

MARYLAND, June 5th, 1733.

MY VERY GOOD LORD,

The Right Hon^{ble} the Lord Proprietor being upon his return home I thought it proper to give your Lordship some account of affairs wth respect to religion & the clergy. His Lordship has indeed been so far from admitting any new incroachments upon the clergy that he has declared publicly at several times that he will suffer none, but that he will maintain them as well as all other bodies of men in their just rights and privileges.

He has it is generally thought an undoubted right to the three lower counties upon Delaware now in possession of the family of the Penn's, they being fairly within his charter. He is resolved to pursue his claim to indeavour to have them reunited to this province. If this was effected it would bring those parts under the same establishment with us and save the Hon^{ble} Society for propagation of the Gospel in Foreign parts all the charge they are at in maintaining the several Missionaries there besides that upon such an establishment there would be treble the number of churches, parishes w^d be convenient for an orderly general administration of divine offices in every part of that country.

These considerations (as the clergy are persuaded it is his Lordship's right) cause them to wish success to his Lordship, and I doubt not but if your Lordship will be pleased to look into that affair, you'll be of the same opinion, & if so, I cannot but represent it to your Lordship how great a service you would do to religion to give his Lordship what assistance you can.

There are now but three missionaries in those three large counties. One of them, viz^t, Kent, has not one. They would indeed require three or four each [if] our establish^t would support so many. These counties are chiefly inhabited by Quakers & o^r sectaries (though many of our Church people are mixed with them, many of whom have no opportunity of Public worship at all according to the Church of England). They are generally convinced of his Lordship's right, and would readily return but for fear of being bro^t under the Church establish^t. A loud cry ag^t the Fourty poll has been the great engine the Quakers have made use of to draw the people into the interest of Pensil-

vania, has made many adjoin themselves to that Govern^t and become tenants to Penn., why receives & embraces them contrary to all justice & equity. And the Quakers now boast mightily of their great int. at Court by wh. they shall be able to overcome the Lord Baltemore. I humbly then submit it to your Lordship wh^t it is not incumbent on all who are true members of the Church of England to exert themselves ag^t this combination of wickedness, that natural justice may prevail, and that our holy religion may be propagated in those dark counties.

There is a small parish at the head of Cheseapeak bay that, if it had its right, would include Newcastle & the greatest part of the people under the missions of M^r. Ross and M^r. Hacket. My Lord has inducted M^r. Hacket into it; those two gentlemen serve it in conjunction with their missions. It is thought that it would be of service to his Lordship's pretensions if M^r. Hacket resided in the confines of it, equidistant to that & his church, he might have a greater influence on the people to possess them with a just notion of his Lordship's right and good disposition to render them easy & happy. I beg your Lordship w^d prevail with the Hon^{ble} Society to permit M^r. Hacket to comply with his Lordship's reasonable desire. I do really think that it w^d be so far from being any hindrance to the prosecut^r the designs of his mission, that it w^d be a means of enlarging the flock, and getting a better foundation for support of our holy religion.

I must do that justice to his Lordship to say that he has done all he could in favour of the clergy, to put them into favour & esteem with the people, & I assure your Lordship he has been oblidg^d, & shown a great deal of respect to me as your Lordship's commissary, notwithstanding^t he thinks it is his right by his charter to order all affairs of church discipline within the bounds of his country. As to that, I hope it will soon be settled & agreed betwixt his Lordship & you. What I can say is, that he has not hindered me from execut^r any of the powers of your Lordship's commission, and that in gener^l he has left such impressions on the minds of all here of his just, affable, & courteous disposition, that every body wishes him much happiness & success. I beg your Lordship's prayers for,

My very good Lord,

Y^r most obed^t humble serv^t,

JACOB HENDERSON.

Mr. HOLT to the Bishop of London.

TALBOT COUNTY, MARYLAND, September 27, 1733.

MY LORD,

The growing indisposition of my Family has obliged me at last to leave Barbadoes, which I obtained my Lord Howe's License to do for one year. I left a Curate in Christ Church, to whom I allowed £150 for his Salary. I was obliged to employ the elder of the Warrens, he being the only Clergyman engaged in the Island. My Brother Johnson is my sole Attorney.

I am now in Maryland with the Rev^d Mr. Nicols, Rector of St. Michael's, on the Eastern shore, a near relation to my wife. The great expences of this voyage and the present season of the year oblige me to desist from my purpose of extending my travel through Pennsylvania to New York.

I have waited on Mr. Ogle, the Governor of Maryland, and Mr. Henderson, your Lordship's Commissary. A living void when I came hither, near Annapolis, the Governor expressed great regard to your Lordship's letters in my behalf, and offered me that living, with a promise of his future favours; but Mr. Henderson interposed a claim of that living for a Friend of his (one Mr. Erquart), adding that my Lord Baltimore had promised the same to him just before he left the Province, with which the Governor was unacquainted. But rather than have a dispute with your Lordship's Commissary, he revoked his offer to me, promising if I stay here he will provide for me as soon as he has it in his power. Mr. Lang has a prior promise of any living that falls worth his acceptance, and rather than return to Barbadoes I would be glad to succeed him in that he now has. But even herein I apprehend another difficulty; for if any Clergyman should come from England with my Lord Baltimore's recommendation, I may be again postponed. I came hither too late to secure an interest with his Lordship, for he had left the Province before I arrived here.

I thank God the change of climate has already contributed much to our good. We now enjoy our health and the use of our limbs again, and not without reason dread the thoughts of returning to Barbadoes, which my circumstances will oblige me to do the next year, if I prove unsuccessful here; but I must thereby separate myself from my Family, which would be a very hard task to me.

Such is the general good disposition of the people in this Province, that where there are exemplary & diligent Clergymen, there wants not success. In Mr. Nicols' Parish the Churches are full and the communions large, and the decency observed in the places of divine service second to none I have ever yet seen.

I have not mentioned to the Society my leaving Barbadoes, not being yet assured whether I must be obliged to return thither or no. I have faithfully served them.

Accept, my Lord, for those multiplied favors which I have received, the best return in my power, the most grateful acknowledgement & humble thanks of, My Lord, your Lordship's, &c.,

ART. HOLT.

Mr. HOLT to the Lord Bishop of London.

ALL FAITH, ST. MARY'S COUNTY, MARYLAND
May 20th, 1734.

MY LORD,

It has pleased God to give my family such a share of health in this Province, that we could not think of leaving it to return to Barbadoes.

Some of the smallest benefices in Maryland have been vacant lately; one of them I have made choice of, viz^t, All Faith Parish in St. Mary's County, with a promise of further favors from the Governor, as opportunity offer. It is a very laborious Parish, but I am, in my present state of health, as able to supply this as I was that in Barbadoes. This parish is but little short of 60 Miles in length, and very hilly; one Lord's day I must ride about 14 Miles, the next about 24.

My Congregations are much larger than my two Churches can hold, so that the people are obliged to croud at the outsides of the doors and windows. They seem very joyful to have the public service of the Church once again performed amongst them on the Lord's day, to which they have been very much strangers for several years, through the late Incumbent's long indisposition, during which time the papists reaped a very plentiful crop here, who

are indefatigable, whose Priests are of the Jesuit order, several of which there are in my Parish and the Parishes adjacent. They have several places in this Parish to meet in public, and seem very sanguine with hopes of greater encouragement. Some of them are in places of profit, viz^t, Receivers of my Lord's Rents. They are in number in this County, I believe, three to one against us, nor are they so much as debarred the use of arms.

As for the Protestants, I am much satisfied to see their disposition towards religion; they are in general also pretty well inclined to have their slaves be christians. I have already baptized several Negroe Infants in this Parish belonging to persons of distinction.

I catechise and expound the Catechism every Lord's day, except on Communion days, when the labor would be too great. I have already had above ninety Communicants at one Church, and above fifty at the other.

I have now wrote to Dr. Humphreys to acquaint the Society with my removal from Barbadoes.

I humbly beg your Lordship's Blessing, and desire my poor tribute of thanks may be received for your Lordship's many favors extended to,

My Lord, &c,

ART. HOLT.

Mr. HOLT to Mr. SAMUEL SMITH.

ALL FAITH, ST. MARY'S COUNTY, MARYLAND,
May 21, 1734.

REVEREND SIR,

Since I wrote to you last the want of health obliged me to remove with my family to the Northward, having my Lord of London's recommendation and my Lord Howe's License to absent for twelve months from Barbadoes.

Finding health restored to my Family in Maryland, we all desired rather to settle here than venture again over the dreadful deep to Barbadoes, whose torrid clime we had reason to believe would soon deprive us again of that health which, with great risques and expence, we have so lately required.

I applied myself to the Governor of Maryland, who received me kindly,

and has placed me for the present in the Rectory of All Faith, in the County of St. Mary, where I have a people to serve different from those in Barbadoes.

My Parish abounds with Papists. There are several priests, and several places where they convene their people at their pleasure. Their priests are of the Jesuit order.

The Protestants seem very inclinable to hear, and practice their duty. My labour is very great amongst them, my parish being near 60 Miles long, and very mountainous, but, to my great joy, my churches are filled, and many are forced to crowd at the outside of the doors and windows.

I have had already upwards of 90 Communicants in one Church, and about 50 at the other. I have baptized several Negroes since I came hither. The people are much more easily persuaded to have their slaves christians than the Inhabitants of Barbadoes, nor, indeed, is the task so hard here, this colony being but yet in its infancy, and the number of Slaves but small.

I catechize every Lord's day, except on communion days, and read Dr. Newton's exposition of the Catechism, being one of the books I received from Dr. Bray, which, with the other Books he sent to me, tho' they were not so acceptable to the Barbadians as might have been expected, will, I hope, sufficiently answer the end here, where they are highly necessary. I shall still keep them under my own care, except otherwise ordered by those pious associates who succeed Dr. Bray, whose commands I shall, when honored therewith, be ever ready to obey.

I have reason to believe that the public libraries of this Province would, if examined into, be found to stand much in need of some regulation.

Pray give my duty to your Hon'ble Society. If they are at leisure, and are disposed to extend their favors to the people of this place, I am persuaded they will have a happy effect. Some of those small pieces of dissuasive from and defensive against Popery would be a very charitable present in this Parish, where Romish Pamphlets are diligently dispersed up & down, and where, during my predecessor's incapacity many years thro' Lameness and sickness, &c., the Romish Priests made a plentiful harvest. Many families amongst us are but half Protestant; the husband of one and the wife of the other persuasion.

The women who are Papists and intermarry with Protestant husbands, make it a part of their contract that all their daughters shall be brought up in

the romish faith. The number of Papists are supposed now to exceed the Protestants at least 3 to one in this County.

I should be very glad to be honored with your correspondence in Maryland, who am,

Rev^d Sir, &c.,

ART. HOLT.

*The Rev^d Mr. Arthur Holt, Rector of St. Luke's
Parish on Chester River, in Queen Ann's Coun-
ty, on the Eastern shore of Maryland.*

Mr. HOLT to the Bishop of London.

ST. LUKE'S PARISH IN QUEEN ANNE COUNTY, ON CHESTER
RIVER IN MARYLAND, May 23, 1735.

MY LORD,

The Governor of Maryland has been pleased to remove me to St. Luke's Parish upon Chester River, in Queen Anne's County, on the Eastern side of our Bay joining to Pennsylvania, two days' journey from Philadelphia.

Besides my Parish Church, I have a Chapel about 10 Miles from the Church, and I expect very soon to have another chapel about the same distance another way, whither I often go on week days at present, & have a large Congregation at a private house. My Congregations and Communion are very great, both at Church and chapel. There are but few sectaries in this Parish, and those chiefly Quakers. I am now settled as well as I can expect to be in this Country. The Parish I now have was enjoyed by Mr. Wilkinson, your Lordship's late Commissary on this shore.

The Governor has preferred Mr. Chase, on the Western shore, to a good benefice. He is the Lord Baltimore's Chaplain.

In September last I had the pleasure of seeing Mr. Johnson, who was forced, for his health sake, to leave Barbadoes. He went from hence to Philadelphia, & after that to New York and new England, from whence, I believe, he is now arrived again at Barbadoes.

Maryland has a vast extent on this Eastern side of the Bay of Chesapeake, pretty well inhabited, and the Clergy in it are many.

If your Lordship subjects us to an Ecclesiastical jurisdiction on the Western shore, many of the Clergy on this shore must be absent from their Parishes a long time if required to meet on the other side of the Bay; besides the distance, there is a great uncertainty of crossing this great and dangerous Bay, in which many people perish by sudden gusts; and often we must wait many days at public houses for a fit season to venture upon the water, by which means the expences would be very heavy to those who have but small benefices.

I beg pardon for taking the liberty to hint this to your Lordship's goodness does not desire that your Clergy should labour under any grievances that may well be avoided; and as a Commissary has before now been settled on this shore, we hope your Lordship will think of having it so again.

There are some worthy good Clergy in this district. Mr. Nicols is very regular in his manner of life, and strict in the observation of the Rules of the Church. Mr. Williamson is another who has justly obtained a very good character, and I am confident if your Lordship knew all the Clergy on both sides of the Bay, you would judge of Eastern shore Clergy no less deserving of your Lordship's particular notice than the Western shore. I humbly beg pardon if I have gone too far, but I thought it my duty to mention these things, which I apprehended your Lordship not before duly informed of.

It has pleased God to bless my endeavors here. The last Lord's day a very ancient Gentleman of a good character and good capacities who was educated a Quaker, offered himself before the Congregation to be baptized; he behaved very well on the occasion, and received the Communion also before he went out of the Church.

I thankfully acknowledge your Lordship's many favors. I can now tell your Lordship I know not the Parish in all America that (if void) I should desire to exchange this for which I now enjoy. It is believed the seat of Government will remove to Chester, a new Town about 4 Miles from my house. It is the most improving Town and most capable to be improved of any place in the Province.

I humbly beg your Lordship's blessing, and am,

My Lord, Your Lordship's, &c.,

ART. HOLT.

*The Parishioners & Vestrymen of St. Stephen's, in Cecil County,
Maryland, to the Secretary.*

June 5, 1739.

This is to Certify,

THAT in St. Stephen's Parish, in Cecil County, Maryland (Situate on both Sides and round the head of Bohemia River), 2 handsome Brick Churches and a vestry house are lately built, which are to be completely finished, furnished and adorned this Summer, at the expense of about £2,000, raised partly by Public Levy and partly by the contributions of the Parishioners.

THAT one of the Churches stands upon the Glebe, consisting of 300 Acres of good Land, well improv'd, on which the rector lives, and 2 acres of Land belong to the other Church for a yard, &c.

THAT, on Sundays and all the principal fasts & festivals (by turns), a large Congregation duly assembles at each Church, behaving themselves decently and devoutly during the time of divine Service.

THAT at (and about) Easter, Whitsuntide, Michael's, & Christmas, there is a considerable number of Communicants at each Church.

THAT, on stated days, many parents, &c., bring their children to the Churches to be heard and instructed in their Catechism.

THAT the people take due care to have their Children baptized, and send for the rector when the infants are in danger of death.

THAT the people likewise duly send for him in their sickness.

THAT most people are careful to have their sensible negroes baptized, & their Negro children.

THAT the people send for the rector to inter their dead in their family burial place, or bring them to the Churchyards.

THAT, in general, virtue and religion seem very much to gain ground in the Parish.

THAT there is a presbyterian Meeting house and also a residence of Jesuits & Mass house in the Parish, but the Congregation in each are of late but very small.

THAT here are but few other dissenters from the Church, tho' the neighbourhood abounds with all sorts.

THAT here is no parochial Library, tho' one would be of vast service for the instruction and confirmation of conformists, and the conviction of Gainsayers; but the people having of late liberally advanced money as aforesaid, they are not in a Capacity to Purchase one. Therefore the subscribers humbly Pray the Rev. M^r. Com^r Henderson to interceed with the R^t Rev^d the Lord Bishop of London and the rest of the venerable Society for the propagation of the Gospel (in behalf of themselves and the rest of the Parishioners) for a small set of Books of Practical & Polemic Divinity, to be lent out as occasion shall require. The favor of which pious assistance Shall be gratefully acknowledged by

HUGH JONES, Rector.

ANDREW ZELIFRO, }
FRANCIS BOMER, } Churchwardens. And several others.

M^r. JONES to the Secretary.

ST. STEPHEN'S PARISH, IN CECIL COUNTY, MARYLAND,
July 30, 1739.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR REVERENCE, &c.,

To excuse the presumption of me and my vestry in making application to you for the donation of a Library to this Parish, for tho' this place belongs not to any of your Missions, yet it may lay as just a claim to partake of your pious favours as any, being the chief mark at which the virulent darts of the Pennsylvania Deists, Quakers, Presbyterians, &c., are aimed, we being almost surrounded by them, & having continual trade and converse with them.

You are no strangers to the cunning and diligence of these people in perverting their neighbours, especially the licentious and ignorant; so that I need only to mention that I am obliged to be continually on my guard to defend my weak (but large) flocks against their daily attacks in one quarter or other, in which, with God's help, I have hitherto well succeeded, but this being a populous and very growing place, 'tis feared that without the aid of a competent number of Books to be lent out on all occasions their insinuating Wiles

will seduce many in a small time, since the Jesuits in my Parish with him, they have settled and favor'd in Philadelphia seem to combine our ruin by propagation of Schism, Popery, and apostacy in this neighbourhood, to prevent the danger of which impending tempest, 'tis hoped you will be so good as to contribute your extensive charitable benevolence, by a sett of such books of Practical & polemic divinity and Church history, as you shall judge most suitable for the purpose ; but especially the best answers to Barclay's apology, the Independant whig, and all the other favorite Books of the quakers, deists, Presbyterians, Anabaptists, and Papists, with Books of Piety and devotion & vindications of the doctrines & discipline of our established Church against all sorts of adversaries.

Such books are absolutely necessary here, the inhabitants being a numerous, wavering conflux of Persons of various conditions and principles from most parts of Europe & America, but now without a Library, that formerly given being taken away, with a Parish divided Long since out of this ; & tho' the place is very populous, yet the great sums of late advanced by the people, as Specified in our representation herewith sent, make it impracticable for us at present to purchase Books ; but delays are dangerous in our case ; therefore we have applied to your reverences as our sole present remedy. As I live near your mission at Apoquinimy, I officiated sometimes there in the vacancy before M^r. Pugh's arrival, gratis, and always perform any ministerial office for my neighbours there when applied to, many of the inhabitants there being my auditors here when M^r. Pugh is at his other Church. This I instance to show how near we are to your reverence's mission, & that we have some small title to partake of your favor, in return for which none shall more readily assist in the promotion of your most Christian designs with the utmost of his ability than,

Good Sirs,

Your most respectful, humble servant,

HUGH JONES, { Rector of St. Stephen's, in Cecil
County, in Maryland.

Mr. JONES to the Lord Bishop of London.

NORTH SASSAFRAS, CECIL COUNTY, MARYLAND,
Oct' 19, 1741.

MY LORD,

Your Lordship's most laudable zeal in the cause of sound christian Faith and vestal encourages me to presume you will not take my officiousness amiss in acquainting you hereby that tho' there is as competent a maintenance established on the Clergy of Maryland as (perhaps) in any other part of the British dominions, the benefices being, one with another, worth at least £200 per Annum Sterling, & there being about 36 Parishes; yet the great remissness or mean capacity of some & the notorious immoralities of others of my Brethren here give great offence to many devout people, and occasion a contempt of the Clergy amongst many of the Laity; of which our Jesuits & the champions of dissentious Enthusiasm, deism, and libertism (with all which we abound) make no small advantage, especially seeing these sons of Eli are permitted to persevere with impunity, & without censure or admonition, since the offation of the exercise of M^r. Henderson's commissorial power. But these are evils which you know (my Lord) require speedy remedies, even amongst the smallest numbers of people, but much more in this populous infant Province, consisting of upwards of 36,000 taxables, who are not $\frac{1}{4}$ of the whole number of Souls. The vast importance, therefore, if the affair obliges me in conscience to inform your Lordship of the great necessity there is for a strict spiritual discipline over the Clergy here, either by an effectual restitution of your Lordship's delegated Jurisdiction, or by the Proprietor's exertion of his power (according to the Ecclesiastical jurisdiction of England, to which his Charter refers), if the right be really invested in him; or else by a conjunction of your Lordship's authority & his; or finally by an Act of Parliament or Assembly obtained for the purpose, or by what other method your Lordship's prudence and Interest can accomplish so great & necessary a work. To exhibit particular instances of persons and facts would be tedious for your Lordship to read & an ungrateful task for me to recite; but if your Lordship has received no full account thereof from other hands (as I presume you have

not), if your Lordship requires it, I shall collect & transmit you a well attested summary of particulars. In the mean time I rely on your Lordship's discretion and favor not to disclose the author of this information, for reasons that might occur to your Lordship, on account of the ill will, displeasure, &c, that a publication thereof would be occasion on behalf of,

May it please your Lordship,

Your Lordship's most dutiful humble Serv^t,

HUGH JONES.

P. S.—If your Lordship shall vouchsafe to write to me, Please to lodge your letter with M^r. Laurence Williams, Tobacco Merchant in London.

M^r. BACON to the Secretary.

MARYLAND, 4th August, 1750.

REVEREND SIR,

Your favor of the 31st March, together with a Box cont. 200 M^r. West's Lyttleton's Discourses in defence of Christianity, I have received, and am very thankful to the New Society for that distinguishing mark of their confidence in making me the instrument of distributing those valuable Tracts in this Province where God knows such were greatly wanting. I shall in this, as in all other commands they shall think fit to honour me with, endeavour to acquit myself to the best of my power and the furtherance of their pious intentions.

Infidelity has indeed arrived to an amazing & shocking growth in these parts; and 'tis hard to say whether 'tis more owing to the ignorance of the common People, the fancied knowledge of such as have got a little smattering of Learning, or misconduct of too many of the Clergy, especially in this Province. Religion among us seems to wear the face of the Country; part moderately cultivated, the greater part wild & savage. Where diligent conscientious Pastors are seated, there improvement is to be seen, in proportion to their time & labours. Where others are fixed all things appear with

a Desert aspect or over-running with an useless growth of Weeds and brush, sprung up since the decease of the last laborious husbandman.

Tindal's Christianity &c, is got into most Houses where any body reads : but his confused obscurity & the want of Learning among the generality of our Readers make him of little more service to the cause than to possess them with a conceit that there is something very deep in him against Revelation tho' they don't understand him. So that few of our real or wou'd be Infidels are able to support even a shew of argument. They appear most formidable in the way of Ridicule, as best suited to their capacities & most taking with the Vulgar, in which they receive their main strength from the Independent Whig, a Book every where to be met with. But this with Lord Shaftesbury's politer way of banter, unassisted by the irregularities of the Clergy, would be of little force. Here indeed they seem to triumph & the misbehaviour of some weak & (I wish I could not say) scandalous Brethren lies open to the eyes & understanding of the meanest and most illiterate, furnishes the evil minded among them with a plausible objection to the truth of Christianity drawn from the open practice of its professed defenders, makes others careless about the knowledge or means of Religion—leads many of them into corrupt or at least sceptical principles—and leaves some simple well meaning People a prey to the emissaries of the Church of Rome, or to the enthusiasm of *New Light* & other *Itinerant* Preachers who not long ago were very numerous, especially in the parts bordering on Pennsylvania: which multiplies the labours & afflictions of the more regular honest Pastors, who are grieved to see the Kingdom of Satan & separation from the Church thus promoted, and their mouths stopped from any reply to such scandalous notorious matters, as are every day to be objected from that Quarter. In this unhappy Province where we have no Ecclesiastical Government, where every Clergyman may do what is right in his own eyes, without fear or probability of being called to account, and where some of them have got beyond the consideration even of common decency, vice and immorality as well as infidelity must make large advances ; and only the appearance of a Bishop or Officer armed with proper powers of suspension &c, seems capable of giving a check to their further progress.

Your Orders to me have occasioned you a trouble of another sort, which Dr. Wilson will communicate to you ; and which from the goodness of y^r heart and sincere desires of promoting the knowledge & fear of God, I doubt not

you will readily pardon. So bold an advance from an obscure unknown person needs great apology. But the sincerity and well meaning of the design must plead in its excuse for indeed I have no other to offer.

(Lord Baltimore appoints all the clergy in Maryland and will not consult either with the Bishop of London or the Society.)

I request the Prayers of the Society in my behalf, and particularly recommend myself to your own. That Almighty God may grant a Blessing upon all their truly Christian pious endeavours, is the hearty and earnest Prayer of

Reverend Sir,

Your most obedient humble

Servant & Brother in Christ,

THOS BACON.

Mr. ADAMS to Lord Bishop of London.

STEPNEY PARISH, IN SOMERSET COUNTY, MARYLAND,

Oct^r 5, 1751.

MY LORD,

Our assembly has altered the specie that the Clergy of Maryland by the Royal Act of Queen Anne (of blessed memory) gave us, so that they have not only deducted one fourth of the £40 of Tobacco per pole, but have given liberty to the lazy to pay what remains in 12^s & 6^d paper currency for 100[£] tobacco, which is not nigh the value of Tobacco at present. In behalf of myself & other Clergymen, I humbly beg the favor of your Lordship to speak to the Hon^{ble} Mr. Onslow, speaker of the House of Commons, whom we hear is Guardian to the young my Lord Baltimore, proprietary of Maryland, that the said act should not be removed, or any act made to alter or lessen the dues of the Clergy of Maryland till first the Governor of Maryland call the Clergy and acquaint them therewith, &c.

I have made bold to enclose some thoughts and observations about Bishops in America, and hope your Lordship will take it well, for Dissenters reflect that we have none, and I have been a Clergyman in Maryland since the year 1704. I was ordained at Fulham about the last of July or first of

August, 1703. I thought possibly these thoughts may do some good. The King and your Lordship are advanced in years. I thought with myself possibly you might do some good before you die, for a young successor will hardly lay such serious thoughts to heart. The Lord bless such a great good work.

I am,
Your Lordship's, &c,
ALEX^a ADAMS.

P. S. I would not have it published that I wrote to your Lordship, for possibly I may be made uneasy here about it in my old days, tho' I have not to my knowledge made matters higher then they are, but rather some what lower.

Rev. Mr. ADAMS to Lord Bishop of London.

STEPNEY PARISH, IN SOMERSET COUNTY, MARYLAND,
Sept^r 29, 1752.

MY LORD,

Upon hearing your Lordship declined the care of the Plantations, I wrote to your Lordship how necessary Bishops were in America, and how easily they might be supported; but hearing that you have undertaking the care of the Plantations, I humbly crave leave to lay before your Lordship the following particulars: The establishment of the Church of England in Maryland by the late Queen Anne is the best in America, yet several attempts have been made to subvert it in 1728, as may appear by the privy Council records; but of late more artfully they have cut off the fourth part of the Clergy's allowance & altered the specie, where, either thro' humour or interest, any person neglects making Tobacco for what is not an equivalent; & last June I was at Annapolis when the Assembly was sitting, & heard the Members of the Assembly openly say that several of the Members freely spoke of reducing it much lower. There is no certainty if the Royal establishment of the Church be thus attacked, altered, and subverted. N. B. There are great numbers of Papists, Quakers, and other Dissenters in this Province. It is not so in Vir-

ginia. The Clergy of Maryland are so widely distant, & the Governors these many years neglecting to call them together, that they cannot meet to unite in their address to your Lordship to represent their grievances. This fatal law, that has picked my pocket about £200 during the five years it existed, will expire this year. Therefore, my good Lord, speak to the young Lord Baltimore & the Hon'ble Speaker of the House of Commons, his guardian, to order that no more the Assembly shall alter our Royal establishment, and that the Clergy be called by the commander in chief, that they may confer about the affairs of the Church. Doubtless your Lordship will appoint Commissarys in Maryland, one on the Eastern shore that contains 7 Counties, & another on Western shore that contains likewise 7 Counties, as Bishop Gibson did; but they were threatened and ceased to act because he got not his Commission from the King under the great Seal. My Lord, I have three most irregular Clergymen in my neighbourhood. M^r. James Magill for the Western shore, and M^r. Thomas Airey for the Eastern Shore, are very capable to be Commissarys, for they are of the old Clergy; for some late clergy omit reading the Athanasion creed. M^r. Bacon is so infirm with a rupture that he cannot endure the fatigue of a Commissary.

Pray, my Lord, press earnestly that orders be sent to Maryland not to sap and subvert our constitution, and see that it be sent in by the first ships, else that sacrilegious law will be renewed, 'tis pretended for the good of trade. The same law is in Virginia, & the Clergy there not hurt, & they divide our Parishes upon the removal of the present incumbent; but nothing will satisfy them but the ruin of the Church. They regard not the authority of the Crown nor the good of the Church.

Pardon, my good Lord, my zealous freedom. For those 48 years I have been in Maryland I must have more experience then some others about these matters.

I am, My Lord, &c.,
ALEX^R ADAMS.

P. S. I designed to have visited most of the Clergy of Maryland to subscribe the enclosed, but we have had such a dry, hot, sultry Summer, such as I can't remember the like, that I could not undertake it; & this time I have had a slow fever & dare not be so long from home, for it would be 500 miles' riding at least. Those that have subscribed took me above 50 Miles' riding,

going and coming, & Brother Airey came accidentally to my house, whose house is 35 miles distant from me, and our parishes only parted by a river.

My Lord, you see our poor case when we have neither Bishop or Commissary to call us together by authority. Pray stop the next assembly from altering our constitution, for it cost the clergy 200 sterling to send M^r. Henderson home, 1728, and 'tis easier preventing a mischief than removing it, for they artfully will engage all the Tobacco Merchants on their side, tho' Virginia has the same law, & did service but no hurt to their clergy.

N. B. We had a Commissary that acted 1728; then the Clergy could be legally called together. 'Tis not so now, & I could not prevail with the Clergy to meet even privately without authority when the late law was made.

Mr. ADAMS to Lord Bishop of London.

STEPNEY PARISH, IN SOMERSET COUNTY, MARYLAND,
October 18, 1752.

MY LORD,

I most humbly pray your Lordship to engage the young my Lord Baltimore & his guardians to order that next assembly they order their president, or if they send in a Governor, not to suffer any alteration in the establishment of the Church of England in Maryland by the next Assembly, which commonly meets in May, & that only those orders be sent in, & that the commander in chief in Maryland call the Clergy to meet, as formerly used to be the practice; for, my Lord, I have been informed by a gentleman of the first rank in both the upper and lower houses, that they designed to ruin the constitution of the church, which is an infringement of the authority of the Crown, as well as of the interest of the Clergy. If the law passes as so attached to the conveniency of the Merchants that they will be all our enemies at Court; but the same law may pass as in Virginia, without any detriment to the Church.

I am, Your Lordship's, &c.,

ALEX^r ADAMS.

Petition from Maryland.

To the Right Reverend Father in God, Thomas, Lord Bishop of London.

MY LORD,

Your pious and worthy Predecessors, the Bishops of London, always protected the Clergy in America, especially in Maryland, where, by the direction of King William, the Lords Commissioners of trade and Plantations drew a scheme which was passed by the Assembly of Maryland into an Act for the establishment of religious worship in this Province according to the Church of England, and for the maintenance of Ministers, which act was confirmed, and finally enacted and ratified upon the Lords Commissioners of trade and plantations, presenting the same to Queen Anne in Council the 18th day of January, 1702; yet in the year 1728, the 3^d day of October, an act passed the Assembly of Maryland to cut off a fourth part of the Clergy's allowance; but upon the Commissary, the Rev^d Mr. Henderson, going home, and presenting the grievances of the Clergy before his present Majesty in Council, the Lord Proprietary of Maryland, Lord Baron of Baltimore, dissented to the law, that it never took effect; yet of late an act has passed, not only cutting off a fourth part, but altering the specie for what is not an equivalent, and this law expires next year. Therefore your dutiful Clergy humbly pray your Lordship to engage the young Lord Baltimore and his Guardians to order their Governors or President, which shall happen to be chief Ruler in this province of Maryland, not to pass or suffer to pass any Act of Assembly whatsoever, that may any way, directly or indirectly, impair or lessen, alter or change the specie of Tobacco the Clergy are allowed by the Royal authority, as above; for if the fluctuating humour of popular Assemblies be allowed, they bring it to nothing, and ruin the constitution. Pray, my Lord, support our Royal and happy constitution, and your Lordship's Clergy, as in duty bound, shall ever pray.

ALEX^s ADAMS, Rector of Stepney Parish, in Somerset County.

HAMILTON BELL, Rector of Somerset Parish, in Somerset County.

PATRICK GLASGOW, Rector of All Hallow's, in Worcester County.

THO^s AIREY, Rector of Great Choptank Parish, in Dorset County.

*Messrs. JONES and ADDISON to Lord Bishop of
London.*

MARYLAND, Aug^r 27th, 1753.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR LORDSHIP,

We Ministers of the established Church of England, settled in Maryland, humbly presume hereby to represent to your Lordship the present state thereof in this Province, in confidence that your celebrated piety, learning, and prudence will incline & direct you to the most proper means of redress in matters so immediately under your Lordship's inspection, as we apprehend the Ecclesiastical affairs of the Plantations are.

Your Lordship undoubtedly knows the unhappy difference that subsisted between our late Proprietary & D^r. Gibson, your worthy predecessor, concerning the ordination & Licenses of the Clergy, which he inducted to Livings here in his Gift as Proprietary, the consequence of which has been the presentation of several persons unequal to the sacred function, on account of their learning, parts, and scandalous lives; & what adds greatly to the misfortune is, that our late Commissary being (in a great measure) suspended by the Government from the execution of his Office, not only Preists made of the lowest of the people have been inducted, but, being under no jurisdiction, they have done what seemed good in their own eyes, to the greatest scandal & detriment of our holy religion, for from hence the Jesuits stationed amongst us have reaped no small advantage; from hence the Enthusiasts & Schismatics, rambling up and down the Provinces, seeking whom they may seduce, have too much prevailed on the wavering & ignorant; from hence those that sit in the seats of the scorner have proselited too many to Deism; from hence many professed Members of our Church have degenerated into Luke warmth by disregard to the doctrines of those whose persons they hold in the utmost contempt; and from hence, by the vicious examples and indiscreet behaviour of such Teachers, too many have been patronized in immoral courses.

This being the case in many Parishes, we doubt not but your Lordship will attempt a regulation, especially at this juncture, when we have a Proprie-

tary who, in a kind letter with which he has honored one of our fraternity, has expressed the greatest regard for our established religion in general, & for the Clergy in his Province in particular, from whence we infer that he will concur with your Lordship in any reasonable proposals for rectifying these momentous affairs, & when they are reduced to their proper channel, we doubt not but your Lordship will caution the other Bishops not to interfere, & you will ordain & license none for Maryland but such as are worthy of the Holy Office; none that are sent from hence but such as produce proper testimonials under the hands & seals of such of our Incumbents as your Lordship . . . [illegible] . . . may appoint for that purpose, with the addition of coercive power over the profligate and refractory Brethren, so that we may be no longer a Body without a head.

The methods of effecting this necessary work must be referred to your Lordship's discretionary conduct; so that, with ardent Prayers for success in this and all your laudable undertakings, & for your long continuance as one of the greatest ornaments of the British mitre, we conclude by subscribing ourselves,

Your Lordship's most dutiful

Sons & most respectful humble Serv^{ts},

HUGH JONES, A.M., of the University of Oxford, and Rector of
St. Stephen's and Augustine Parishes, in Cecil County.

HENRY ADDISON, A.M., of the University of Oxford, & Rector
of St. John's Parish.

Mr. ADDISON to Lord Bishop of London.

MARYLAND, POTOWMACK RIVER, Oct^r 29, 1766.

MY LORD,

The writer of this letter, living in a remote part of the World, & being an utter stranger to your Lordship, hath nevertheless presumed thus to address you, from a confidence that nothing will be thought by your Lordship beneath your attention in which the interests of the Church of England are concerned.

A Clergyman as I am of that excellent Church, I cannot see any thing that reflects disgrace upon her with indifference, and without using my best endeavours to remove it, and to prevent, as far as may be, such disgrace for the future. This must be my apology for the trouble I must at present give your Lordship, and which is particularly occasioned by the infamous conduct and behaviour of a person who, in this part of the World, chose to call himself by the name of *Congreve*, but in the beginning of the present year was ordained by your Lordship under that of *James Colgrave* or *Colgreve*.

It will be necessary, then, to give your Lordship a few anecdotes of the life of this man, so far as they have come to my knowledge.

He is a native of Ireland, & hath been a good many years in America, where, by his own account, he hath lived a vagrant life, strolling from place to place thro' most of the Colonies upon the continent. He kept a house of public entertainment for some time at Philadelphia, of no good repute, as I have reason to believe. He was likewise in the Army here, particularly at the siege of Louisbourg, where he belonged to the train of Artillery. The War being over, and strolling about as he had been accustomed to do, he came to Maryland, & was appointed Master of the Free School of the County of Prince George, in which I live. Here he married a Wife, who left him in a week's time, apprehending her life to be in danger from his violences. She had much reason, for he is an abandoned drunkard, & when drunk an outrageous Madman. He remained with us about five or six months, and having got in debt, left us abruptly, in other words, ran away, & I was in hopes I should have heard no more of him for ever. Your Lordship will judge what was my surprise and indignation upon receiving a letter from London informing me that he was in holy orders.

Such was his conduct before he was ordained; and your Lordship shall hear that his change of character wrought no change of manners in him. Upon his arrival from England, he officiated in the Parish where he had before resided, & immediately after the service got drunk and behaved in the most outrageous manner, to the scandal and grief of the Friends of the Church of England, and to the triumph of its Enemies. He officiated again at Annapolis, the metropolis of this Province, where the Congregation, as I was well informed, thro' indignation at his unworthy character, in a good measure deserted the Church. Having made a short stay here, where he met with no countenance, & having prevailed with his Wife, against the sense of all her

Friends, to accompany him, he went to North Carolina, where, together with a Parish, he enjoys a small appointment of £20 per annum from the Society; how worthily, your Lordship from this detail will judge.

Your Lordship will please to observe that I write not with any desire to be concealed, but that you are at full liberty to make such use of this letter as you shall judge proper.

In conclusion, permit me, my Lord, with humble deference, to the above narrative to add a short reflection or two.

That upon such occasions the disgrace falls not always where it ought to fall, upon such who recommend the unworthy to your Lordships the Bishops. Again :

That this and such instances, which I know to be not unfrequent with respect to America, strongly evince, amongst other things, the expediency of establishing episcopacy here, without which one may venture to prophecy that the Church of England must loose ground.

With ardent prayers for the speedy accomplishment of which most desirable event,

I remain, with great respect,

Your Lordship's, &c.,

H. ADDISON.

Rev. D^r. CHANDLER to the Bishop of London.

ELIZTHTOWN, Oct^r 21th, 1767.

MY LORD,

In the month of May last I had occasion to go into Maryland, & I think it my duty to take this opportunity to report to your Lordship that I found the people on the Southern part of the eastern shore, where I spent a fortnight, to be the most sober & orderly, the least vicious & the most religious, & at the same time the freest from enthusiasm of any people I have ever met with. There are no roman Catholics in that part of the province, & but very few Dissenters of any sort. The parishes are all large, & the livings are generally worth £300 sterling, some of them worth £500, & but very few so low as

£200. The general character of the Clergy, I am sorry to say, is most wretchedly bad. It is readily confessed that there are some in the province whose behaviour is unexceptionable and exemplary, but their number seems to be very small in comparison, they appearing like here & there lights shining in a dark place. It would really, my Lord, make the ears of a sober heathen tingle to hear the stories that were told me by many serious people, of several Clergymen in the neighbourhood of the parish where I visited, but I still hope that some abatement may fairly be made on account of the prejudices of those who related them.

The inhabitants look upon themselves to be in a state of the cruelest oppression with regard to ecclesiastical matters. The Ch's are built & liberally endowed, entirely at their expense, yet the proprietor claims the sole right of patronage, & causes induction to be made without any regard to the opinion of the parishioners; those who are inducted are frequently known to be bad men even at the very time, & others soon shew themselves to be so after induction. There is no remedy, as they cannot be removed, not even by the highest exertion of proprietary power. These are the complaints of the people, & I was desired to represent them to your L^dship, & to implore your interposition in the favour, if your L^dship thinks it may be granted consistently & properly, & to any good effect. I must now beg pardon for breaking in upon your L^dship in this manner, & your permission again to subscribe myself, as I sincerely am, wth the greatest respect & veneration,

My Lord,

Your dutiful Servant,

THOMAS B. CHANDLER.

*List of the Parishes in Maryland and their Annual Value,
as returned in the year 1767.*

BALTIMORE COUNTY.	St. George's Parish, . . .	Lendrum, Rector,	£241 12 8
	St. John's,	L. Sept. 24, 1739, Deans, Rector,	364 1 0
	St. Thomas's,	L. Feb. 21, 1743, Cradock, Rec- tor,	191 7 6
ANN ARUNDEL COUNTY.	St. Paul's,	L. Feb. 12, 1738, Chase, Rector,	211 6 8
	Queen Caroline Parish,	L. McGill, March 28, 1727, Rector,	241 13 8
	St. Margaret's, Westmin- ster,	West, Rector,	111 13 4
	St. Ann's,	Sept. 30, 1766, L. Allen, Rector, .	199 5 3
	All Hallows,	Love, Rector,	162 6 4
PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY.	St. James's,	Mar. 30, 1767, L. Edmiston, Rec- tor,	213 3 0
	Queen Ann's Parish, . .	Brogden, Rector,	246 2 10
	St. Paul's,	L. Sept. 25, 1727, Eversfield, Rec- tor,	238 13 9
	King George's,	Addison, Rector,	267 1 10
	Prince George's Parish,	Williamson, Rector,	363 3 4
FREDERICK COUNTY.	All Saints',	Sept. 30, 1766, L. Allen, Rector, .	452 13 0
	Durham Parish,	L. Dowie, April 2, 1762, Rector, .	137 12 0
	William and Mary, . . .	L. McPherson, April 17, 1751, Rector,	180 0 0
CHARLES COUNTY.	Port Tobacco,	L. Thorton, Sept. 22, 1754, Rec- tor,	253 14 11
	Trinity,	Campbell, Rector,	194 5 5
ST. MARY'S COUNTY.	King and Queen Parish,	L. Brown, July 9, 1750, Rector, .	160 6 5
	St. Andrew's,	Ranney, Curate or Probationer, .	152 4 2
	All Faiths',	Stevens, Do. Do.	136 12 9
	William and Mary, . . .	Tabbs, Rector,	162 3 6
CALVERT COUNTY.	All Saints' Parish, . . .	L. Lawder, Nov. 24, 1761, Rector,	173 10 11
	Christ Church,	Williamson, Rector,	180 7 5
WORCESTER COUNTY.	Worcester Parish, . . .	Hughes, Curate or Probationer, .	144 10 7
	All Hallows,	L. Ross, Sept. 22, 1754, Rector, .	149 6 9
SOMERSET COUNTY.	Coventry Parish,	Reade, Curate or Probationer, . .	151 16 10
	Stepney,	L. Adams, Dec. 21, 1748, Rector,	213 16 1
	Somerset,	Oct. 19, 1647, L. Bell, Rector, .	125 12 8

DORCHESTER COUNTY.	Dorchester Parish, . . .	McCallum, Rector,	£147 8 3
	Great Choptank, . . .	L. Maynadier, Dec. 29, 1760, Rec- tor,	206 4 3
TALBOT COUNTY.	St. Mary's, Whitechapel, .	L. Walker, Mar. 25, 1756, Rector,	232 11 4
	St. Peter's Parish, . . .	Barclay, Rector,	201 12 8
	St. Michael's,	Gorden, Rector,	214 19 1
QUEEN ANNE'S COUNTY.	Christ Church Parish, . .	L. Howard, Curate or Probationer, May 2, 1765,	99 11 9
	St. John's,	Feb. 25, 1766, L. Alkin, Do. .	181 12 8
	St. Paul's,	Mar. 26, 1750, L. Neil, Rector,	209 9 7
	St. Luke's,	Sept. 30, 1760, L. Keene, Rector,	225 4 4
	St. Paul's Parish,	L. Sloan, Curate or Probationer, .	169 5 8
KENT COUNTY.	Chester,	L. Harris, Do.	126 12 8
	Shrewsbury,	Forrester, Rector,	194 14 4
	St. Mary Ann Parish, . .	Hamilton, Rector,	144 5 1
	St. Stephen's,	Mar. 4, 1760, L. Barroll, Rector, .	109 10 3
	St. Augustine,	Dec. 29, 1760, L. Mather, Rector,	76 4 4

Some of the Parishes have Glebe Land belonging to them, but as there are not on more than two or three of them Glebe Houses fit for a Rector to live in, they are leased out by the Rectors at a small rent from five to fifteen pounds a year.

*The Rev. HUGH NEILL to the Right Rev. Lord Bishop
of London.*

September 20th, 1768.

MY LORD,

The duty I owe your Lordship as my Diocesan, and the unalterable attachment I bear the Government of the Church, as established by Law in England, induces me at this time to communicate to your Lordship what passed at our last Session of Assembly concerning the Church in this Province. The ill behaviour of some of our Clergy seemed to point out to the Assembly the necessity of some plans of Church Government, in order to bring them to an account for this misbehaviour. Immediately they [took] that matter into consideration, and formed an act to the following purpose, viz: That after such a

day the Governor, 3 Clergymen, & 3 Laymen, should be constituted a spiritual court. That any Clergy man that was guilty of any acts or act of immorality, or should be 30 days absent from his Parish at one time, should be suspended from preaching and be deprived of his living. No one disputed the necessity of having some power to call irregular Clergymen to an account; but as this was a presbyterian form of ministers and ruling lay Elders, and laying a foundation for a presbyterian Government in the Church of England in Maryland, as well as subversive of the canons of the Church, which give the Bishop alone power to pronounce sentence in such cases, it alarmed all such of the Clergy as were true of the Church of England. However, the Bill passed the lower and upper houses of Assembly, and was sent to the Governor. He refused to pass it at that time, having had no instructions concerning such a matter from home. I need not take up your Lordship's time in pointing out the evil tendency such a law (if it was passed) would have upon the Church in this provence, as it would be establishing Presbyterianism in this Colony upon the neck of the Church, and an effectual Bar to the introduction of Episcopacy, which is generally wished for by the Clergy of this Provence. The Assembly declare they will push the Bill every Sessions till they obtain it. As Governor Sharp (one of the best of men) is likely to be recalled, and a new Governor sent over by Lord Baltimore, I would humbly leave it to your Lordship's consideration whether it might not be necessary for your Lordship, out of your great goodness, to procure some instructions to the governors of this Provence from the Crown, in order to prevent them from passing any Law concerning the Church in this Provence, that might be dissonant from or contrary to the Discipline and Government of the Church of England. Craving your Lordship's pardon for this trouble, I am, may it please your Lordship,

Your Lordship's dutiful son and very humble servant,

HUGH NEILL,

Rector of St. Paul's Parish, Queen Anne
County, Maryland.

Case of the Maryland Clergy, 1769.

The Members of the Lower house have not, as I can learn, taken any notice as yet of the question about pluralities, but have it in contemplation to frame a Bill for restraining all beneficed Clergy here from being absent more than two months in a year out of their respective Parishes, and for authorising the Governor, together with such three Clergymen and three laymen as he may from time to time choose or appoint, to exercise a kind of visitorial Jurisdiction over such Ministers as may be accused of any notorious and scandalous behaviour; but if such a Bill should be framed and pass the two houses I shall, for my part, decline assenting thereto till I can know his Lordship's pleasure; tho', indeed, the expediency of some restraint on the Clergy cannot be denied.

That the Clergy of Maryland are better provided for than the Clergy in any other Colony, and that they are less respectable, is not to be controverted; being subject even to less restraint than other men, they, in the same proportion, are less guarded in their morals. I speak of their general character, for there are some of the sacred order who are men of worth and merit.

Bills have been heretofore proposed for their regulation, but, as they were calculated as well to diminish their dependance upon the Government, and to extend the power of Juries, as to subject the Clergy to restraint, miscarried, but, in the last Session, a Bill was sent to us from the lower house in no sort liable to these objections, and so evidently tending to extend the powers of Government, That I was as much surprised at its passage in the Lower house as the opponents of the Bill were at its miscarriage with the Governor. A copy of this Bill our Clerk was ordered to transmit to you. I trust that what I have said will not be understood as any reflection upon the Governor, who (I know) as well as every Member of the Upper House, approved of the Bill, for his Dissent proceeded from an apprehension that my Lord might possibly dislike the Bill, and yet be under some difficulty in rejecting it, an opinion that if approved of by his Lordship it may pass at another time.

An additional supplementary Act to the Act entituled an Act for the establishment of religious worship, &c., a copy of which you have enclosed; with one amendment it past the Upper House unanimously, but the Governor

refused his Fiat to it, thinking it of too much consequence to be past without his Lordship's particular instructions. The scandalous immorality of some of our Clergy calls aloud for such a regulation. At present, when a Clergyman is inducted, he becomes quite unaccountable & independent, and it seems to be a great solecism in Government that a Body of men most liberally supported by the people should be under no kind of controul, for let their conduct be ever so flagitious or contradictory to the end of their institution, there is no power either of suspension or deprivation. You will observe that his Lordship will derive very important powers from such a Bill, powers which will add great weight to his Government; whereas at present as soon as he inducts his power totally ceases. I shall not presume to say that the Bill, as it past the two houses, was in all its parts unexceptionable; but what I am recommending to his Lordship is to consider it with attention, and, after making such alterations or amendments as he shall think proper, to instruct his Governor to pass it.

Rev. Mr. CLAGETT to Lord Bishop of London.

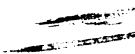
(EXTRACT.)

MARYLAND, Sept. 20, 1769.

MY LORD,

Since my arrival in this Province, I have observed with some concern that, in a late Session of Assembly, a Bill was brought into the house for the better regulating the lives and manners of the Clergy. By this Bill it was ordered that an Ecclesiastical Court should be established, & that there should be Judges appointed, three of which were to be laymen. The Bill passed both houses of Assembly. But Governor Sharpe would not give his consent to it, supposing (as we think) that such a Bill was contrary to the established Rules of the Church of England.

It is now said that the advocates for the Bill will bring it in again next Session, in hopes that our new Governor will be more favorable to their scheme. Many of the Clergy here view it in a light derogatory to your



Lordship's authorities in the Province, and tho' fully sensible that some such regulation is much wanted, yet they think it ought to proceed from and be directed by your Lordship. I doubt not but if this or any other Law should be enacted which the Clergy look upon as grievous, that a proper remonstrance will be made to your Lordship by them, tho' they are now, by a positive instruction of the Lord Baltimore to Governor Eden, forbid assembling themselves together on any occasion whatever, a privilege they have hitherto enjoyed. Your Lordship's known care and zeal for the established religion have emboldened me to make the foregoing remarks; & if on any future occasion I can be of the least service to your Lordship here, it will always contribute to the happiness of, my Lord,

Your Lordship's, &c.,

THO^s. JN^o. CLAGETT.

Mr. ADDISON to Lord Bishop of London.

MARYLAND, Oct^r 24, 1769.

MY LORD,

'Tis with difficulty, my Lord, that I can restrain myself from lamenting (what the present instance, with others which daily occur, but too aptly furnishes an occasion to do) the unhappy case of the Church of England here. Far removed from her Bishops, deprived of Discipline which every other denomination of christians can freely exercise, and delivered up, as it were, bound in the hands of her enemies. But I ask your Lordship's Pardon, & have done, well knowing that you feel but too sensibly for her distresses, and that you are ever watchful of any occasion which Providence shall present for their removal.

Humbly craving your blessing,

I remain, with all respect,

Your Lordship's, &c.,

H. ADDISON.

The Rev. HUGH NEILL to the Rev. Dr. BURTON.

QUEEN ANN'S COUNTY, July 18th, 1771.REV^d SIR,

After a long silence, it is with a great deal of pleasure I embrace this opportunity of reviving my former correspondence when in the Service of the Venerable Society, I hinted it in my last Letter to that Board, but I hoped it would be one day in my power to make retaliation for the many instances of their regard shewn me during a course of 16 years that I was their missionary.

When I come first to Maryland I found many of the Clergy endowed with very good livings, from thence concluded they might afford to become members of the Society. This I moved at a General meeting of the Clergy at Annapolis last Summer; eight of us agreed immediately. The Rev^d Dr. Cooper, president of King's College, New York, upon a visit last fall, took down our names, and in a Letter from him this Spring acquainted me he had transmitted our names to the Society, and at the same time requested me to acquaint my agent in London to pay you the premium upon admission. I have, in a Letter bearing equal date with this, desired Mess^{rs} John Morton, Jordon, and Company, Merchants in London, to wait upon you for that purpose.

Many more of the Clergy here are very desirous to become Members were there any person in this Province appointed to collect the annual payments, as they have no correspondence in London. The Upper and Lower Houses of Assembly here are laboring hard to pass a Law to take away above one half of our livings, the consequence of which will be the destruction, in a great measure, of the Church of England in this province. At our last general meeting we drew up addresses to the King, Archbishop of Canterbury The Bishop of London, and Lord Baltimore, for an American Episcopate. We addressed His Excellency our Governor upon the same Subject, laying our papers before him, and praying his concurrence and interest with Lord Baltimore to accomplish this salutary measure.

His Excellency received us very coldly, and let us know, by the advice no doubt of his Council, that the Livings in Maryland were Donatives, and stood

in no need of the aid of Episcopacy, &c. This casts a damp upon many. The Addresses were continued over till our next meeting.

The assembly met soon after, and passed a Bill obliging the Clergy to take 12^s per hundred from the planters, when Tobacco sold sometimes at 30^s per hundred, often at 25^s.

We have agreed to petition the Crown in case this Bill pass into a Law next Sessions. The Crown has undertaken the determination of a Bill of a similar nature, upon a petition from the Clergy of this province before.

We hope the venerable Society will interfere in our behalf in case we have occasion to appeal home. I shall from time to time acquaint you with the religious transactions of this province, as I have nothing more at heart than a Union between the Clergy and Churches of these Southern Colonies and those to the northward, and that Union firmly established by our connexion with and dependence on our Spiritual Fathers and Brethren in Old England.

I am, your very aff^o h^{ble} Serv^t,

HUGH NEILL,

Rector of St. Paul's Parish,
Queen Ann's County.

To the Rev^d Dr. Dan^l Burton.

1775.

*A conjectural estimate of the amount of the annual Incomes
of all the Church Livings in Maryland, as they now are
and as they were before the passing of the late Law.*

St. George's, 1800 Taxables, at 4 per Taxable, amount to £. 360 currency, which, allowing for the costs of collection & Insolvencies, may not exceed £. 320, equal to £192 Sterling, heretofore *communibus annis* it was £250 Sterling.

	Tambles.	Curr'y.	Stor'g.	With deduc'ns, £340	It was £500
St. John's, . . .	3,100	620	L. equal to £372		
St. Thomas, . . .	2,100	420	252	220	270
St. Paul's, . . .	2,150	430	258	220	270
Queen Caroline, . .	1,700	340	204	180	400
St. Margaret, . . .	900	180	108	90	130
St. Anne's, . . .	1,450	290	174	150	250
All Hallows, . . .	1,200	240	144	120	200
St. James, . . .	1,400	280	168	130	260
All Saints' . . .	1,350	270	142	120	170
Christ Church, . . .	1,400	280	168	130	200
King & Queen, . . .	1,600	320	192	160	200
All Faiths' . . .	1,400	280	168	130	160
St. Andrew's, . . .	1,200	240	144	120	160
William & Mary, . .	1,450	290	174	150	200
Durham, . . .	1,100	220	132	110	150
William & Mary, . .	1,400	280	168	130	200
Port Tobacco, . . .	2,300	460	276	250	350
Trinity, . . .	1,500	300	180	150	200
Prince George's, . .	3,500	700	420	350	500
All Saints', . . .	5,000	1,000	600	500	500
Queen Anne's, . . .	1,800	360	216	190	360
St. Paul's, . . .	1,650	330	198	180	350
King George's, . . .	2,400	480	288	260	450
St. Mary Anne, . . .	1,400	280	168	140	150
St. Stephen's, . . .	1,500	300	180	160	170
St. Augustine's, . . .	750	150	90	75	75
St. Paul's, . . .	1,200	240	144	130	190
Chester, . . .	1,250	250	150	130	200
Shrewsbury, . . .	1,600	320	192	165	180
Christ Church, . . .	800	160	96	80	120
St. John's, . . .	1,200	240	144	130	160
St. Paul's, . . .	1,450	290	175	150	200
St. Luke's, . . .	1,300	260	156	140	180
St. Peter's, . . .	1,450	290	175	150	200
St. Michael's, . . .	1,500	300	180	155	210
Dorchester, . . .	1,200	240	144	130	160
Great Choptank, . . .	1,800	360	216	200	290
St. Mary, Whitechapel, .	2,000	400	240	210	250
Somerset, . . .	1,600	320	192	170	250
Stepney, . . .	3,000	600	360	320	350
Coventry, . . .	1,550	310	198	160	200
All Hallows, . . .	1,500	300	180	155	190
Worcester . . .	1,400	280	168	150	180

List of Clergy and Livings in Maryland.

COUNTIES and PARISHES in Maryland.

WESTERN SHORE.

BALTIMORE COUNTY.—Mem. This County is now divided; the new one is called Harford, after the new Proprietary. I think St. John's and St. Paul's chiefly are in the old County, as in Baltimore Town, the largest in the Province.

St. George's Parish,	. . .	William West.
St. John's,	. . .	Hugh Deane.
St. Thomas's,	. . .	William Edmiston.
St. Paul's,	. . .	Thomas Chase.

ANN ARUNDEL COUNTY.

Queen Caroline Parish,	. . .	James Macgill.
St. Margaret, Westminster,	. . .	Daniel McKinnon.
St. Anne's,	. . .	Thomas Lendrum.
All Hallows,	. . .	David Love.
St. James,	. . .	Walter Magowan.

CALVERT COUNTY.

All Saints' Parish,	. . .	Francis Lauder.
Christ Church,	. . .	Thomas John Clagett.

ST. MARY'S COUNTY.

KING AND QUEEN'S PARISH.—Richard Brown. Some years ago this strange man was strangely persuaded to resign this living (reserving to himself a small part of the Stipend) to a M^r. Goldie, who now holds it.

All Faiths',	John Stephens.
S ^t . Andrew's,	Joseph Messenger.
William and Mary,	Moses Tabbs.

CHARLES COUNTY.

Durham Parish,	Henry Fendall.
William and Mary,	John M ^c Pherson.
Port Tobacco,	Thomas Thornton.
Trinity,	Isaac Campbell.

FREDERICK COUNTY.

Prince George's Parish,	Alexander Williamson.
All Saints,	Bennet Allen.

PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY.

Queen Ann's Parish,	Jonathan Boucher.
S ^t . Paul's,	John Eversfield.
King George's,	Henry Addison.

EASTERN SHORE.

CECIL COUNTY.

S ^t . Mary Anne Parish,	William Thompson.
S ^t . Stephen's,	William Barroll.
S ^t . Augustine's,	Philip Reading.

KENT COUNTY.

S ^t . Paul's Parish,	Robert Reade.
Chester,	John Patterson.
Shrewsbury,	John Montgomery.

QUEEN ANN'S COUNTY.

Christ Church Parish, . . .	Hanna.
S ^t . John's,	John Andrews.
S ^t . Paul's,	Hugh Neale.
S ^t . Luke's,	Samuel Keene.

TALBOT COUNTY.

S ^t . Peter's Parish,	Jacob Henderson Hindman.
S ^t . Michael's,	John Gordon.

DORCHESTER COUNTY.

Dorchester Parish,	Thomas Brown.
Great Choptank,	Philip Hughes, D.D.
S ^t . Mary, Whitechapel, . . .	Philip Walker.

SOMERSET COUNTY.—Mem. This County is also now divided. **Carolina** is the new one.

Somerset Parish,	Hamilton Bell.
Stepney,	John Scott.
Coventry,	Samuel Sloane.

WORCESTER COUNTY.

All Hallows' Parish,	John Rosse.
Worcester,	John Bowie.

NOTES.

P. 8.

In 1682, and later still in 1690, mention is made of the Rev. Duell Pearl as officiating at All Hallows. It appears from the Journal of the Upper House of the General Assembly, cited by Dr. Ethan Allen in his "Historical Notices of St. Ann's Parish," that he had been sent out by the Bishop of London. He is not mentioned after 1691. In 1692, we learn from the same accurate authority, that there were four Church of England clergymen in Maryland: Mr. Crawford, in St. Mary's, Mr. Moore, in Charles, Mr. Lillingstone, in Talbot, and Mr. Vanderbush, in Cecil.

P. 13.

The Rev. Peregrine Coney, or Cony,—not Corry, as the transcriber has rendered his obscure signature,—came over with Gov. Nicholson in 1794. Dr. Allen gives a sketch of his life in the interesting volume already quoted. The Rev. John Lillingstone's reputation may be inferred from the fact that the Rev. John Talbot, afterwards consecrated by the Non-Jurors, recommends him for suffragan. Notices of him will be found in the Coll. of the P. E. Hist. Soc., i., 42, 58; Anderson's Col. Ch., iii., 72; Hawkins's Missions of the Ch. of Eng., 143; Hawks's Maryland, 499, 501, 502, 520, 523. The Rev. Richard Sewell is referred to in the "Acts of Dr. Bray's Visitation," reprinted as an appendix to Dr. Hawks's Maryland; in Dorr's Christ Ch., Phila., p. 418, and in various printed and MS. documents of his time. The Rev. Stephen Bordley is mentioned by Keith in his Journal, P. E. Hist. Coll., i., 42, 46. The Rev. Benjamin Nobbs and the Rev. George Tubman are referred to in the "Acts of Dr. Bray's Visitation." The Rev. Hugh Jones, an Oxford "M.A.," subsequently removed to Virginia and became a Professor of the College of William and Mary. His "Present State of Virginia," published in London, in 1724, is a work of interest and value. The Rev. Thomas Cockshute, of All Saints', Calvert County, is mentioned in the "Acts of Visitation," already referred to, and appears to have been a clergyman of reputation.

P. 54.

The Rev. John Sharp, afterwards chaplain at New York, and a clergyman of character and ability, labored for years in New York and New Jersey.

Notices of Dr. Bray's controversy with Gov. Nicholson appear in full in the Virginia papers of this series.

P. 55.

The Rev. William Tibbs will receive mention again and again in these pages.

P. 58.

Vide Hawks's Maryland, 120-123. The case of the Rev. Joseph Holt has escaped further animadversion in the printed or MS. documents of the time, which are accessible. Bp. Meade refers to him as temporarily supplying a parish in Virginia, and Anderson, in his "Colonial Church," mentions his name.

P. 59.

Archdeacon Huitson, discouraged by the treatment related in the text, declined to accept the appointment then tendered him. Dr. Hawks vigorously characterizes the scandalous opposition encountered by Dr. Bray in his zealous efforts for the exercise of godly discipline.

P. 63.

The Rev. Alexander Adams, whose ministry in Maryland extended over a half century, will be frequently referred to in these pages.

P. 72.

A sketch of the Rev. Samuel Skippon is contained in Dr. Allen's Hist. Notices of St. Ann's Parish, in Ann Arundel County, pp. 44-50.

P. 77.

The clergymen whose names are appended to this paper, with the exception of Messrs. Sewell, Cockshute, Colebatch, Hall, White, and Owen, had been added to the number of resident clergy since the visitation of Dr. Bray, in 1700.

The Rev. Joseph Colebatch was prevented, by a writ of *ne exeat*, from going to England to be consecrated Suffragan Bishop in 1727. *Vide Hawks's Maryland, 196, and Allen's St. Ann's Parish, 40, 41.* The Rev. Jacob Henderson succeeded the Rev. Henry Hall as Commissary of the Bishop of London. The Rev. Christopher Wilkinson also held this appointment. The Rev. Thomas Baylye served, with little credit to the Church, in Virginia and North Carolina as well as Maryland. Of the Rev. Jonathan Cay, notices will be found again and again in these pages. The names of the Rev. John Donaldson and the Rev. James Williamson will appear in an unfavorable light as we proceed. The Rev. Henry Nicholls is referred to in the Pennsylvania papers of this series. Of the Rev. Henry Jennings nothing further is known. The Rev. John Fraser removed to Maryland from Virginia, where he had come in 1701. The Rev. Thomas Thompson was one of several clergymen of that name who labored respectively in New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Maryland, and Georgia. The Rev. Robert Scott came to Maryland in 1708. The Rev. Daniel Maynadier was of a Huguenot family, and died in 1745, leaving a son in Holy Orders of the same name. Of the Rev. William Machonchie we shall learn further as we proceed.

P. 91.

The Rev. Thomas Howell's name appears on the clergy-list prefixed to the "Acts of Dr. Bray's Visitation," in 1700.

P. 93.

Nothing appears, other than the references in this volume, with regard to the Rev. George Irvine, or Irvin, as the name is elsewhere spelled.

P. 120.

The Rev. Giles Rainsford subsequently removed to North Carolina. Dr. Hawks, in his History of that State, refers to him as follows: ii., 292, 329, 332, 333, 353, 370, 372, 386, 387.

P. 122.

The name of the Rev. Dr. Evan Evans, of Brasenose College, Oxford, is inseparably connected with the history of the Church in Pennsylvania.

P. 126.

The Rev. Peter Tustian came to Maryland from South Carolina. *Vide Dalcho's History of the Church in that State*, 248, 346.

P. 128.

The Rev. Leigh Massey afterwards removed to Virginia. *Vide Meade's Old Churches*, etc., i., 174; ii., 225-227, 247.

P. 129.

The Rev. Thomas Robinson became Master of the Grammar School of William and Mary College, and is frequently noticed in the Virginia papers of this series. The Rev. Alexander Williamson will be noticed again in this volume. The Rev. George Ross labored in Pennsylvania and Delaware as well as Maryland. *Vide Pennsylvania and Delaware papers of this series*. Of the Rev. Thomas Phillips this volume affords all the information within our reach.

P. 189.

For further notice of the Rev. James Cox, *vide Meade's Old Churches*, etc., i., 192, 240.

P. 233.

A clergyman of the name of Barrett is referred to by Bp. Meade in his *Old Churches*, etc., i., 401.

P. 236.

The author of this letter finally wandered to North Carolina, where he was burned to death in 1732. He was a man of dissolute life.

P. 237.

The illegible word was doubtless "Episcopal," or possibly "non-juring" Orders. *Vide* Dr. Hill's History of the Church in Burlington, N. J.

P. 250.

The Rev. John Humphreys came to Maryland from Chester, Pennsylvania. *Vide* the Pennsylvania papers of this series. Also, Dorr's History of Christ Church, Philadelphia, 44, 51, 414, 415; Allen's St. Ann's Parish, 50-77, etc.

P. 255.

The Mr. Smith may have been the Rev. Symon Smith, at one time chaplain to the forces in New York (*vide* Miller's Description of New York; Hist. Mag., V., 189); or the Rev. Guy Smith, of Virginia, referred to in the P. E. Hist., Soc. Coll., i, 38, 97; and Meade's Old Churches, etc., ii., 393, 412. *Vide* the Virginia papers of this series.

P. 261.

The Rev. Dr. Allen, in Sprague's Annals of the American Episcopal Pulpit, speaks in eulogistic terms of the Rev. John Eversfield. *Vide* Sprague's Annals, 252.

P. 264.

Of the Rev. Stephen Wilkinson, William Cawthren, Thomas Fletcher, Thomas Airy, and James Macgill, further notices will occur as we proceed. Dr. Sprague, in his Annals, notices the romantic career of the last named clergyman.

P. 283.

No references to the Rev. Thomas Fletcher, other than those which this volume contains, have come to our notice.

P. 297.

The Rev. Theodore Edgar appears to be the clergyman Dr. Allen, in his Hist. Notices of St. Ann's Parish, speaks of as the Rev. Samuel Edgar, pp. 63-4.

P. 300.

The Rev. John Lang had lately removed from Virginia. *Vide* Meade's Old Churches, etc., i., 385-6, and the Virginia papers of this series. The Rev. Esdras T. Edgard may have been the Rev. Mr. "Edyard" referred to by Bp. Meade in his second volume, p. 186.

P. 302.

Nothing further is known of the Rev. Mr. Wright, referred to in this connection.

P. 303.

The new names are those of the Rev. William Wye, who came to Maryland from Virginia (*vide* Meade, ii., 467); and the Rev. Thomas Dell, also from Virginia (*vide* Meade, i., 258, and the Virginia papers).

P. 306.

A Rev. Mr. Murdock is referred to by Meade, "Old Churches," etc., i., 467.

P. 313.

The Rev. Water Hacket had served in Pennsylvania ere coming to Maryland. *Vide* the Pennsylvania papers, and also Dorr's Christ Church, 420, and Anderson's Colonial Church, i., 493.

P. 314.

Notices of the Rev. Arthur Holt occur frequently in the following pages.

P. 318.

The Rev. Thomas Chase subsequently became rector of St. Paul's, Baltimore.

P. 326.

Notices of the Rev. Thomas Bacon, one of the most estimable of the Maryland clergy, occur in Hawks's Maryland, in Sprague's Annals, and in the various works illustrating the history of the Church or Commonwealth of Maryland. This clergyman compiled the *Laws of Maryland* (Annapolis, 1765), and also published "Four Sermons upon the Great and Indispensable Duty of all Christian Masters and Mistresses to bring up their Negro Slaves in the Knowledge and Fear of God" (London, 1750), with two additional sermons (London, 1751), and also "Two Sermons Preached to a Congregation of Black Slaves" (London, 1749). The Sermons to Masters and Servants were republished at Winchester, Va., by Bishop Meade, who speaks in his *Old Churches*, etc., of this excellent clergyman. *Vide* also Sabine's *Dictionary of Books relating to America*, vol. i., p. 360.

P. 330.

Of the Rev. Hamilton Bell and the Rev. Patrick Glasgow, notices will be found in Allen's *Maryland Clergy* and "Maryland Notices," and in Webster's *Presbyterian Church*, 438, 469.

P. 332.

The Rev. Henry Addison is referred to in Sabine's *Loyalists*, i., 154; Allen's *Md. Clergy*, 5, 9; the "Fairfaxes in England and America," 167-8-9; and in the Virginia papers.

P. 333.

Nothing further is known of the career of this unhappy man.

Pp. 336-7.

The additions are as follows: the Rev. Andrew Lendrum (*vide* Allen's Hist. Notices of St. Ann's Parish, 60, 67), the Rev. Hugh Deane, the Rev. Thomas Cradock (*vide* Church Review, viii., 302-312; Sprague's Annals, 111-117; Allen's Hist. Notices St. Ann's, 66, etc.); the Rev. William West (*vide* Allen's Maryland Notices, *saepé*; Sprague's Annals, 208-211; Perry's Hist. Notes and Documents, *saepé*, etc., etc.); the Rev. Bennet Allen (*vide* Allen's St. Ann's Parish, Maryland Clergy, and "Notices"; Sabine's Loyalists, i., 397, etc.); the Rev. David Love (*vide* Allen's "Notices" and Maryland Clergy); the Rev. William Edmiston (*vide* Allen's St. Ann's Parish, 78-80, etc.); the Rev. William Brogden (*vide* Sprague's Annals, 35, 85-88); the Rev. William Dowie (*vide* P. E. Hist. Coll., 114); the Rev. John McPherson, afterwards "D.D." (*vide* Am. Hist. Record, i., 23, and Allen's "Notices," "Md. Clergy," and St. Ann's Parish); the Rev. Thomas Thornton (*vide* Am. Archives, Series IV., iii., 9, 10; P. E. Hist. Soc. Coll., i., 113, etc.); the Rev. Isaac Campbell (*vide* Allen's Md. Notices, 8, 12); the Rev. Richard Brown, M.D. (*vide* Allen's Md. Clergy, 5, 10); the Rev. Robert Ranney or Renney (*vide* P. E. Hist. Soc. Col., i., 119); the Rev. John Stephens (*vide* Allen's Md. Clergy and Notices, Am. Hist. Rec., i., 23; P. E. Hist. Soc. Coll., i., 117); the Rev. Moses Tabbs (*vide* subsequent reference in this vol., p. 346); the Rev. Francis Lauder (*vide* Allen's "Notices" and Md. Clergy); the Rev. Philip Hughes, afterwards "D.D." (*vide* Allen's Md. Clergy; Penna. Hist. Society's republication of Braddock's Expedition; p. 377); the Rev. Robert Reade (*vide* Meade's Old Churches, etc., i., 358-9; the "Virginia Papers," etc.); the Rev. Mr. McCallum; the Rev. Francis Walker (*vide* Allen's "Notices" and Md. Clergy); the Rev. John Barclay (*vide* Virginia Papers, and Meade's Old Churches, i., 484); the Rev. John Gorden (*vide* Am. Archives, Series IV., ii., 682, also the Virginia papers); the Rev. Samuel Howard, and the Rev. Thomas Alkin (*vide* P. E. Hist. Soc. Coll., i., 114); the Rev. Hugh Neil (*vide* Dr. Buchanan's Oxford Parish, 27-31; Sprague's Annals, 158-9); Bolton's Westchester Church, 494, etc.); the Rev. Samuel Keene, afterwards "D.D." (*vide* Sprague's Annals, Allen's St. Ann's Parish, etc.); the Rev. Samuel Sloan (*vide* Allen's "Notices" and Md. Clergy); the Rev. Matthew (or Matthias) Harris (*vide* Hist. Mag., iv., 237; P. E. Hist. Soc. Coll., i., 113); the Rev. Mr. Forrester, and the Rev. Arthur Hamilton (*vide* the Virginia papers, and Meade's Old Churches, etc., i., 192, 323, 325, 374); the Rev. William Barroll (*vide* Sprague's Annals, 9, 12, 13); and the Rev. Joseph Mather, a graduate of the Coll. and Acad. of Phila. (*vide* Penna. papers).

P. 340.

The Rev. Thomas John Claggett, afterwards D.D., and first Bishop of Maryland, needs no notice at our hands.

P. 346.

Notices of the Rev. Daniel McKinnan, the Rev. Walter McGowan, the Rev. Richard Brown, the Rev. George Goldie, the Rev. Joseph Messenger, the Rev. Henry Fendall, the Rev. Jonathan Boucher, *clarum et venerabile nomen*, the Rev. William Thompson, afterwards "D.D.," the Rev. Philip Reading, the Rev. John Patterson, the Rev. John Montgomery, the Rev. Wil-

liam Hanna, the Rev. John Andrews, afterwards "D.D.," the Rev. Jacob Henderson Hindman, the Rev. John Ross, and the Rev. John Bowie, will be found in Allen's Md. Clergy, and Notices. The compiler of these and other invaluable authorities on the History of the Church in Maryland adds to exactness in detail and reference the art of compressing much information in little bulk.

THE END.

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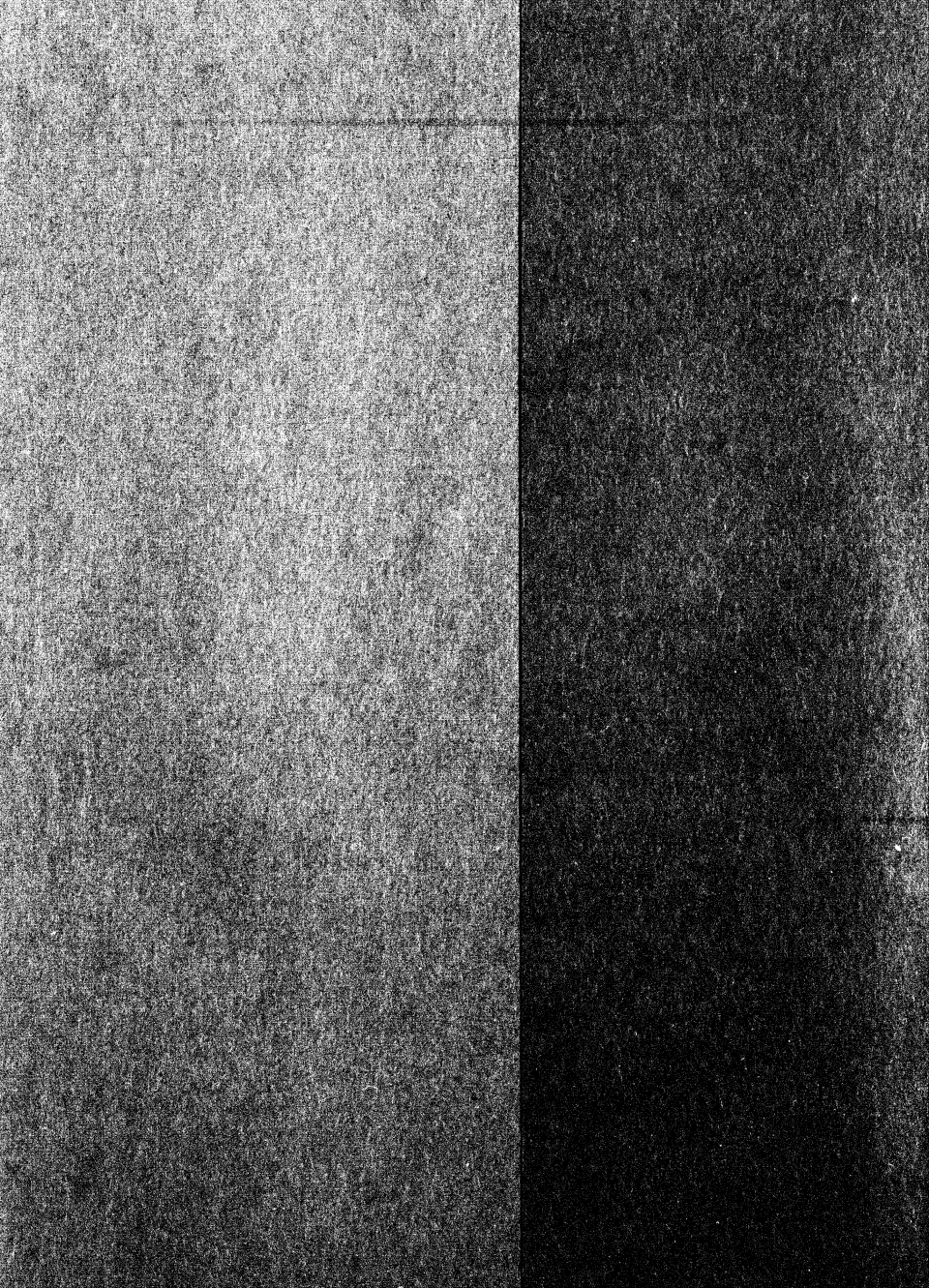
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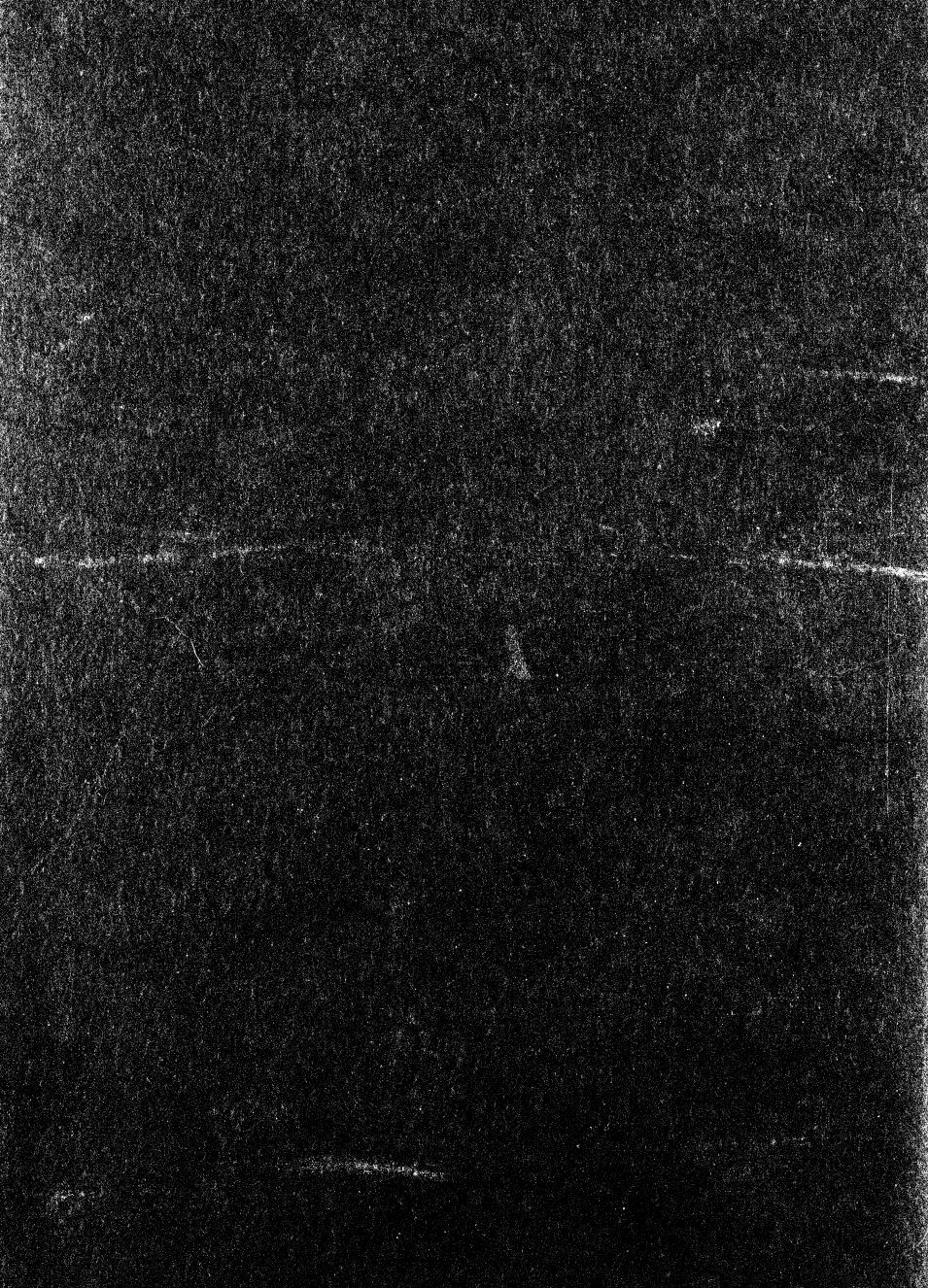
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